

THE TIMES Tomorrow

Rough waters Michael Parkinson takes the desert island by storm. Intelligence men Allan Massie on the real spies behind their books. Under wraps Unveiling the secret formulas of modern packaging. Little and large Big time for the amateurs in the FA Cup third round.

Portfolio

The Times Portfolio competition £2,000 prize was won yesterday by Mr Graham Sawtell of London. Portfolio list, page 12; how to play, Information Service, back page. Tomorrow £27,000 can be won £20,000 in the weekly competition and £2,000 in the daily.

Holiday hotels 'unsafe'

Many hotels used by British tourists in Italy, Greece, Portugal, Spain and Yugoslavia fall short of British safety standards and some are 'positively unsafe', the Consumers' Association said. Calling for international safety standards, it advises holidaymakers to insure against personal injury. Page 3

Prison rioters free guard

Rioting inmates at the maximum-security West Virginia Penitentiary freed two hostages but continued to hold another 14 while demanding a meeting with the governor. One of those freed was a guard with a history of heart trouble. Page 4

Debt repaid

The Nigerian chief whose two wives, 18 children and two nieces lived in a London hotel at the ratepayers' expense last November, paid back £5,520 to Westminster City Council. Page 2

Spending shift

A fifth of families' household spending goes on food, against a third 20 years ago, a survey finds. More is spent on housing and transport. Page 3

Troops arrive

The first of 550 extra regular troops arrived in Ulster to mount guard over police and army posts and the remainder of the Royal Anglans battalion will arrive by tomorrow. Page 2

Madrid meeting

Lord Carrington yesterday on his arrival in Madrid for talks on Spain's membership of Nato. Police kept anti-Nato demonstrators well away. Page 4

Debt talks

Nigeria's creditors, who are owed \$17 billion (£11.8 billion), may reopen talks on rescheduling the debts without an agreement between Nigeria and the International Monetary Fund. Page 13

Radio silenced

The Nicaraguan Government closed down the Catholic Church's official radio station after it failed to broadcast President Ortega's year-end message. Sandinistas confident. Page 5

Bruno's chance

Frank Bruno, the British heavyweight boxer, will meet Jerrie Coetzee, of South Africa, at Wembley in March in a bout which, if it is won by Bruno, will earn him the chance to box for the world title. Page 18

Table with 2 columns: Page, Topic. Includes: News 2,3; Leading articles 4,5; Messages 21; Obituary 24; Business 12-16; Science 10; Show reports 24; Sport 18-20; TV & Radio 23; Theatres, etc 23; Universities 23; Weather 24; Wills 19.

Thatcher warning to Westland on European deals

By Philip Webster and Judith Huntley

The Prime Minister yesterday warned the Westland helicopter company of indications from European governments and companies that its participation in joint European deals could be threatened if it accepts the American-Italian rescue bid. But Mrs Margaret Thatcher gave the Westland board, which favours the American bid, as opposed to the rival European offer the assurance it had sought that the Government would continue to regard it as a British company which ever proposal it accepted, and would do its best to prevent discrimination against the company by European interests if the European deal is rejected. Mrs Thatcher's intervention, in a letter to Sir John Cuckney, chairman of Westland, prompted both sides in the protracted Cabinet battle over the future of the British helicopter industry to claim victories last night. It was clear, however, that the Westland board did not regard it in any way as an obstacle to repeating their recommendation for the American bid. Sir John last night voiced delight at the reply, although he made clear that the shareholders are to be given fuller details of both orders before the board makes its final recommendation. Supporters of Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, were expressing delight that the letter contained the clear warning of the risks of losing European business, which they said was obviously not the reply which Sir John Cuckney had hoped to receive, which he claimed. Writers of Mr Lord Brittan, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, claimed that it upheld the position he has taken 'all along that the company should be free to make its own decision and that the Government would not seek to influence the decision of the shareholders by making threats about future procurement decisions. Mrs Thatcher said in her letter that the Government wanted to see Westland play a full part in existing and future European collaborative projects, some of which were at an early stage and all of them requiring the agreement of the companies and governments concerned. In a passage which Mr Heseltine had pressed to be included when the letter was being drafted, and which Mr Brittan had not originally wanted, she said: 'In this connection you should be aware of indications from European governments and companies that they currently take the view that a number of projects in which Westland are expected to participate in cooperation with other European companies may be lost to Westland if the United Technologies/Fiat proposals are accepted. 'It is for you to assess the significance of these indications.' She added, in passages which backed Mr Brittan's position, that British participation was so important an element in the vitality of European projects, and the Government would continue to support Westland's wish to participate in those projects. Supporters of Mr Heseltine said last night that the letter exceeded their expectations. The Prime Minister had carefully steered a middle course, having, nervously been seen as sympathetic to the American bid. It was a skilful exercise which meant that she would not be seen as ending up on the losing side. But other government sources interpreted the letter as signifying that the Government participation in European ventures if the Sikorsky deal went through. They said it was natural that the European companies should have made threats to Westland at this stage; that the Government would be well-placed to resist attempts to force Westland out; that Westland would be able to retaliate against Aerospaciale by withdrawing subcontracting work it already places with the French company; and that Agusta, the Italian state company, has already made plain that it sees the continuation of deals in which it is already involved with Westland as vitally important. Admiral Sir John Treacher, vice chairman of the Westland board said last night: 'We needed to know if we would be disqualified from British ventures and now we do. We will make a recommendation next week. Sikorsky and Fiat have not come up with a better offer so far but we are giving them the chance to do so. Westland's shareholders received a brief summary of the European consortium's £73.1 million bid yesterday. But the full implications of the deal have yet to be spelled out. Lloyds Merchant Bank advising the Europeans, is demanding that the extraordinary general meeting on January 14 be postponed. Text of letters, page 2



Mr Young and Mr Hill, who were suspended for three months by the BBC.

Bangladesh stops tour by English cricketers

By John Woodcock Cricket Correspondent

The cricket world was thrown into turmoil last night when the Bangladesh part of the England B team's tour was called off at the last minute. The players were already at Heathrow when they were told that the Bangladesh Government had refused entry to four members of the party because they had South African connections. The four players, Bill Athey, Kim Barnett, Martyn Maxon and Christopher Smith, were asked by the Bangladesh Government to sign a declaration deploring apartheid and undertaking not to play or coach in South Africa again. All four were urged not to do so by the Test and County Cricketers Board (TCCB) which was concerned about the precedent it would have created. The team was scheduled to play three matches in Bangladesh, the first against the full Pakistan side on Sunday, before flying on to Sri Lanka on January 13 for a month's cricket there. The Sri Lankan leg of the tour still survives, but already the visit to Zimbabwe, due to follow it, is in grave doubt. The Government there having taken the same line as Bangladesh. There is also the possibility that governmental interference may stop the full England team tour of West Indies which starts in three weeks time. Continued on back page, col 3

BBC suspends two over 'Rough Justice'

By David Hewson

The BBC suspended two long-standing journalists on its Rough Justice programme yesterday after criticism by a Court of Appeal judge that they threatened a witness to obtain an interview. The unprecedented disciplinary action against Mr Peter Hill, the series' producer since its inception four years ago, and Mr Martin Young, a reporter, was less harsh than that demanded by several senior BBC executives. It is understood that Mr Stuart Young, the BBC chairman, and Mr Alasdair Milne, the director general, were of the opinion that both should be dismissed. But after interventions by other corporation officials to defend the records of Mr Martin Young and Mr Hill, both BBC employees for more than a decade, Mr Bill Cotton, the managing director of television, has decided to suspend them without pay for three months, issue a 'severe and final' warning, and bar them from investigative journalism for two years. Mr Elwyn Parry-Jones, head of their department, will also face a disciplinary hearing over the Rough Justice episode when he returns from holiday. Senior BBC journalists are worried about the long-term effects of the case, which was brought into the open last month when Lord Lane accused the programme of 'outrageous' behaviour and 'investigation by menaces' when it broadcast an edition about the jailing of Mr Anthony Mycock for robbery. Mr Cotton said that he had taken into account the fact that the case had raised questions of editorial accountability and responsibility that had yet to be investigated, and the previous high standard of the men's work which has been defended by numbers of people both inside and outside the legal profession. 'It is clear that in BBC terms an offence of this nature could carry the penalty of instant dismissal,' Mr Cotton added. The BBC's action has been accepted by both men and the National Union of Journalists. Continued on back page, col 2

Police to seek cut in drink drive limit

By Stewart Tendler Crime Reporter

Chief constables are to explore proposals for reducing the legal limit for drinking and driving by up to half the current permitted alcohol level. Mr Roger Birch, Chief Constable of Sussex and chairman of a national police traffic committee, said yesterday. The possibility of a reduction will be considered by the traffic committee of the Association of Chief Police Officers which Mr Birch chairs. He said proposals of a 50 per cent cut had been made in police representatives during a national seminar on traffic last year. Mr Birch said the association policy stated that the answer to drinking and driving must ultimately be 'to move to a situation of no drinking and driving but we realise this is a slow process and one needs a lot of public will and understanding'. Mr Birch said at first sight a cut in the level, which now stands at 35 micrograms of alcohol per 100 millilitres of breath or 80 mg of alcohol per 100 ml of blood, raised problems for the light of social drinkers. He said the light drinker was already genuinely trying to remain within the legal limits but a cut could serve to confuse the situation even further. At the end of the day the only safe advice would be not to drink at all. Mr Birch's committee is due to meet later this month when it will have the final results of the latest drink and driving campaign over the Christmas holiday period. Yesterday Mr Birch said provisional figures already showed that greater police activity had created an increase in positive tests and arrests. Among those who have pressed the police to reduce the limit by half is Dr James Dunbar, deputy senior police surgeon for Tayside and an authority on drug problems. But if Mr Birch's committee did decide to press for change they would first have to persuade other association members to support them. Since the association's statement calling for a zero limit has never reached the statute books any halfway measure legislation would be required to alter current motoring law. Offences rise, page 2

Gaddafi's threats 'not new'

By Nicholas Ashford Diplomatic Correspondent

Western officials yesterday dismissed the threat by Colonel Gaddafi of Libya to declare an 'unending' war in the Mediterranean basin if Libya is attacked by the United States or Israel, describing it as typical Gaddafi rhetoric. While ruling out the likelihood of a conventional attack by Libyan armed forces against American or Israeli targets, the officials warned that there could be an increase in Libyan-sponsored terrorism over the next few months. 'Gaddafi has been saying for years that Libya is at war with Zionism and imperialism', one official said. 'Therefore his latest threat is not new.' The Libyan leader issued his threat during a press conference in Tripoli on Wednesday. He was responding to reports that the two countries were considering revenge-raids against Libya for last week's terrorist attacks at Rome and Vienna airports, which caused 16 deaths. The sixteenth victim, a 50-year-old Greek woman, died in a Rome hospital yesterday. The American and Israeli officials have claimed that Libya is backing the Abu Nidal terrorist group, which is suspected of carrying out the two attacks as well as a number of other outrages. At his press conference Colonel Gaddafi said Libya would not retaliate with limited action to an aggression against Libya, but would declare war in the region. 'If an aggression were declared against Libya, it would be the beginning of the end', he said. 'It would be the beginning of an interminable war.' Western officials pointed out that although Libya had a considerable capacity to support

Setback for Younger

£1,000m order for Navy and RAF

By Rodney Cowton and Ronald Faix

The Ministry of Defence is to place orders worth £1,000 million for torpedoes and submarines for the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force. It is understood that Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, and Mr Norman Lamont, Minister of State for Defence Procurement, have approved a contract worth about £400 million with Marconi Underwater Systems, great-blow to Scottisb shipyards, but also to Mr George Younger, the Scottisb Secretary. Ministers decided in early December that all the submarines should be ordered from Vickers, but Mr Younger subsequently tried to ensure that one of the vessels should be ordered from one of the Clyde shipyards, Scott Lithgow or Yarrow. Although he failed to get the decision on the submarines changed, it is thought that there is the prospect of an order for Scott Lithgow from the Government, although not from the Ministry of Defence, for a non-military vessel. Decisions on the submarines and one of the torpedo contracts had been expected before Christmas, but may have been delayed because of Mr Heseltine's heavy involvement in the controversy over the future of the Westland helicopter company. Stingray has been in service with the Royal Air Force and the Royal Navy in limited numbers since September 1983, but its development programme was only completed in October. The Chief of the Defence Forces, Lieutenant-General Basilio Okello, said a Press Security Committee would 'scrutinise, and approve or disapprove all news items on security forces before they are printed or broadcast'. 'No news regarding security should therefore be printed or broadcast without prior consultation with and clearance of the committee.' His statement followed accusations by National Resistance Army rebels that government soldiers had killed more than 300 people since December 17.

Friendly Reagan passes his Russian screen test

From Christopher Walker Moscow

President Reagan has, with his new year message on Soviet television, captured the imagination of many ordinary Soviet citizens previously led by a relentless barrage of official propaganda to regard him as little more than a fanatical warmonger. Quite frankly, we were amazed when we turned on the set for the 9 o'clock news and found the friendly face of President Reagan speaking out at us, speaking what sounded like a genuine message of peace. explained Gennady, an educated office worker in his mid-30s who lives with his wife and six children. 'We had seen him before during the Geneva summit, but what mattered as much this time as his appearance was the message which he gave,' Gennady said. 'My family noticed that despite what we have always been told, he looked friendly and really quite normal. Of course, we also noticed that he looked a lot older than Mr Gorbachov.' Speaking in central Moscow, Gennady added that many of his friends had been similarly impressed by President Reagan's message of peace, although some wondered what it would amount to in practice. 'The distrust for him was so great, that it will take more than this to get rid of it completely', Gennady said. most Muscovites, he had, almost by habit, tuned in to the nightly news, the country's most popular television programme. 'We had seen him before during the Geneva summit, but what mattered as much this time as his appearance was the message which he gave,' Gennady said. 'My family noticed that despite what we have always been told, he looked friendly and really quite normal. Of course, we also noticed that he looked a lot older than Mr Gorbachov.' Speaking in central Moscow, Gennady added that many of his friends had been similarly impressed by President Reagan's message of peace, although some wondered what it would amount to in practice. 'The distrust for him was so great, that it will take more than this to get rid of it completely', Gennady said. Both Mr Reagan's pointed reference to human rights and his claim that the Soviet Union was already researching its own missile defence system surprised Soviet viewers, who normally have little or no access to outside views about the Kremlin's activities. As with Mr Reagan's earlier, more indirect, appearances during and after Geneva, many Muscovites were surprised by the apparent amiability of a man that they had so often been told by the official Soviet media to hate. Prada and Ivestia, the two main leading newspapers, had front page reports on President Reagan's broadcast and on that made by Mr Gorbachov, the Soviet leader, to US television viewers. In an apparent attempt to keep up the momentum of goodwill, the Soviet authorities later announced a press conference on cultural exchanges with the US 'and the spirit of Geneva', to be held today. In addition to senior Kremlin officials, leading figures from the Soviet art world are due to take part, including Mr Yevgeny Yevtushenko, the poet, and Mr Igor Moiseev, the choreographer. WASHINGTON: Mr Gorbachov's broadcast to the American people interrupted coverage of the traditional new year's day parades and football games (Michael Binyon writes). While guaranteeing the Soviet leader an unusually large lunchtime audience, this provoked a number of enraged sports fans to tell television stations: 'Get that Russian off the screen.' 'One guy called and said: 'What's all this propaganda? I don't want to see all this. I'd rather be watching the parade.' a station reported. Another in South Carolina had several calls of complaint. Continued on back page, col 1

Did alcohol ruin your New Year... again? Manor Clinics are private treatment hospitals that can quickly solve alcohol problems. We start by helping families understand drink related difficulties, and then give guidance on how to help the one in your life who has not yet asked for help. Ring today Ring us today for further information, or to arrange for a confidential interview. If you prefer, contact your G.P. and ask him to call. At Manor Clinics we understand. Call 01-549 9861 or DJAL 100 and ask for Freephone Manor Clinics. Manor Clinics, Kingston Hill, Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey, KT12 1JA London - Birmingham - Romsey, Hants. Medical insurance may apply. Financial arrangements available.

# Drink and drive offences rise as police mount tougher action

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

Preliminary figures for drink and driving offences over the Christmas holiday period show that, in spite of tougher police action and a publicity campaign, many drivers were still prepared to risk driving over the limit.

Yesterday Mr Roger Birch, chief constable of Sussex and chairman of the Association of Chief Police Officers' committee on traffic policy, reported that figures available so far show a rise in the number of breath tests and arrests.

That he said, "may reflect a higher level of police activity and certainly cannot be taken to indicate the campaign has been a failure".

In the immediate period of Christmas and the new year 23 forces reported more than 6,000 breath tests of which one in five was positive. Merseyside looked to have the worst record with more than half the drivers tested driving illegally.

The figures indicate that overall the police are likely to have carried out more than the 29,000 tests given last year, but not necessarily to have topped the 37,000 in 1983.

The slogan chosen for the holiday period, "Think you can drink and drive? Think again" combined with police tests had made a significant impact, Mr Birch said.

But, he added: "Breath tests carried out so far leave no doubt that many motorists continue to drink and drive. A significant proportion that do so are well over the limit."

Nine forces, ranging from Manchester to Dorset, carried out 8,797 tests between December 9 and the new year which resulted in 1,921 positive tests and meant that one in four drivers was over the limit.

Provisional figures for London over the same period show nearly 11,500 tests, but less than 10 per cent were positive. Preliminary figures for 23 forces, not including London, between December 22 and the new year showed 6,556 tests were carried out and 21 per cent or 1,392, were positive.

Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State for Transport, agreed with the police that it was too early to say clearly what the Christmas campaign had achieved, but she was pleased with the co-operation of police and local or national authorities.

# Long-term problems for hung councils

By Colin Hughes, Local Government Correspondent

Conservative and Labour party leaders on hung local councils believe that the lack of overall control by one party has damaged decision-making, according to a survey published today.

Chief executives also complained to researchers, who publish their findings in today's *Local Government Chronicle* magazine, that balanced power has led since last May's elections to poor long-term planning and lack of political direction.

But Alliance councillors, who gained minority influence in many local councils at last year's elections, argued that the new administrative patterns had proved a strong force against extremism of both left and right.

Nine out of ten Conservative councillors, and 65 per cent of Labour leaders, said decisions had deteriorated. Only 9 per cent of Alliance leaders thought administration had become more difficult.

The survey, covering 40 hung councils, shows wide variety in ways of tackling the problem of a balance of power. Most authorities relied on tacit agreement by a minority party to keep one of the larger parties in control.

Both Labour and Conservative said agreements were unstable, and most likely to collapse when the council is trying to agree a budget. Alliance leaders, in contrast, thought that the inability of dominant parties to push decisions quickly through committee meant that decisions were more often taken by the full council, improving councillors' democratic involvement.

Action to recover much of the ratepayers' money lost in a year's abortive Labour rebellion has been delayed this month (Hugh Clayton writes). It means that the threat of disqualification from office and surcharge for losses may hang over many councillors for the rest of the year.

District auditors decided last year to act first against rebel councillors in Lambeth and Liverpool because they delayed fixing their rates for variety in members of other authorities. A total of 81 members of the two councils have been accused of incurring losses totalling £233,000 through "wilful misconduct".

Their appeal against the auditors' decisions will begin in the High Court in mid-January and may continue to the Court of Appeal and the House of Lords.

If the rebels win in court no action will be taken against other rebels. If they lose, auditors may act against Labour councillors in Sheffield, Hackney, Islington, Camden, Southwark, Tower Hamlets and Greenwich.



Chief Okerentugba Thompson handing over a banker's draft for £5,520 to Mr Ken Hackney of Westminster City Council's housing department yesterday

# Nigerian chief repays council

The Nigerian chief whose two wives, 18 children and two nieces lived in a London hotel at the ratepayer's expense last November, repaid the £5,520 bill yesterday.

Chief Okerentugba Thompson invited the Press and television to watch him handing over a banker's draft at Westminster City Council's housing department.

The council had housed the family in a two-store hotel in Paddington after they were evicted from their Eaton Square flat, in Belgravia.

central London, by the owner, Mrs Soraya Kashoggi, but it stopped paying their bills after the family refused its offer of £5,750 in airline tickets to get home. The family rejected the tickets because they were not first class.

Chief Thompson said he had always intended to pay back the money but had been in detention in Lagos at the time of the eviction and then had difficulty in getting funds transferred from Nigeria to London.

He said: "I was taken by surprise by what happened and both shocked and embarrassed". He is planning to buy a 10-bedroom house in London so his children could complete their education but he would be returning to Lagos. "I am too big a fish for Britain's sea."

The chief also produced a receipt for £3,196 for a further three weeks' accommodation in the hotel, and said all his debts, including a £19,000 bill for school fees at Dover College, attended by his six sons, would be paid.

He added that his family bore no ill-will towards Britain.

# More troops arrive to boost Northern Ireland defences

The first of 550 extra regular troops for Northern Ireland arrived yesterday to guard police and Army posts in four border counties and to safeguard rebuilding work on RUC sites.

Members of the 2nd Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment, flew in from their permanent base at Colchester, in Essex, and the entire battalion should be in Northern Ireland by tomorrow.

Their arrival coincided with release of a letter from the Prime Minister to Mr John Cusack, leader of Northern Ireland's Alliance Party, giving an assurance that the rebuilding of RUC stations was a matter of the highest priority and that the IRA intimidation campaign would not be allowed to succeed.

The arrival in Ulster on Wednesday of at least one RAF CH-47D Chinook heavy-lift helicopter, flown in from RAF Odiham, Hampshire, is being taken as a sign that an Army-led reconstruction drive is underway.

In its flying crane role, the Chinook can carry underslung loads of more than 12 tons. It is capable of carrying substantial prefabricated buildings across country.

Chinooks are not normally stationed in Northern Ireland. Army headquarters there declined comment on the probability of the heavy lift helicopter being used on the rebuilding of police stations. "It could also be here in connection with today's movements", a spokesman said, in reference to the Royal Anglian's deployment.

As a troop transport, the Chinook can carry 40 equipped soldiers but the airlifting of troops.

A third convicted Irish National Liberation Army killer yesterday joined the hunger strike at the Maze prison, near Belfast. The Northern Ireland Office confirmed that Thomas Power, aged 32, from the Markets area of Belfast, who is serving a life sentence for murdering an RUC reserve constable in 1981, had begun to refuse food.

Power has joined two of the 26 men sentenced on December 18 on the evidence of Harry Kirkpatrick, the INLA multiple murderer and "supergrass", in what the hunger strikers claim will be a first to the death to protest their innocence.

Robert Tohill, aged 26, and Gerard Sheehan, aged 38, both from Belfast, will today begin their sixteenth and ninth respectively without food. The Northern Ireland Office confirmed they were still refusing food but said their medical condition did not give rise to any concern.

The Relatives for Justice support group disputed that, saying that Tohill's weight had dropped from 12st 4lb to 10st 3lb in two weeks and that he was vomiting.

Other prisoners say they will join the hunger strike at weekly intervals, one every Thursday morning; until the authorities agree to a full review of the cases of all prisoners sentenced on the uncorroborated evidence of police informants.

Mr John Hume, the Social Democrat and Labour Party leader, is to meet Relatives for Justice today to discuss the strike. The group is pressing MPs to demand a debate in the Commons, and is calling for emergency legislation to ensure there are no further convictions based on uncorroborated accomplice testimony.

Mr Peter Barry, the Minister of Ireland's Foreign Affairs, flew to London on Monday to press on Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Dublin's concern about the hunger strike and the mounting convictions on the testimony of accomplices.

# Strike spreads

The strike at Sheffield's Forgemasters escalated yesterday when the number of steelworkers in dispute doubled after men at the River Don works refused to cross a token picket line.



Mr Birch yesterday: "significant impact"

# Heart girl dies

Debbie Hough, aged four, from Leeds, Britain's youngest girl to undergo a combined heart-and-lung transplant, has died at Harefield hospital, west London. She had the operation last October.

# Alliance calls for 'justice department'

By John Winder

The first of a series of documents which will be put before conferences of the Social Democratic and Liberal parties in the coming months to form a body of Alliance policy recommends the formation of a Department of Justice. That would bring together functions distributed among many government departments.

The document, published today, has been prepared by a four-member body from both parties. It lists seven responsibilities which, it says, should devolve on the new department. These are:

the state of the law in constitutional, administrative, civil and criminal matters, as well as companies, international and European Community law; law reform including responsibility for the Law Commission, which the document says should be given greater opportunities for making autonomous proposals; appointment, tenure and compensation of service of judicial officers and procedure and administration of courts and tribunals; the Director of Public Prosecutions and prosecution services generally, which should be independent of the police and not under Home Office control;

power will be taking a leading part in the conference.

The discussion of structure, organization and style of an Alliance government will include a review of ministers, the role of the Civil Service and ways in which the Alliance could apply its "partnership" approach to society and the economy to the operations of government.

MPs will be drawing on the experience of councillors in negotiating with other parties in situations where they find themselves holding the balance of power.

# Fan jailed for punching policeman

A soccer hooligan who punched a policeman unconscious during the Peterborough Northampton match last October was yesterday jailed for three years by Peterborough Crown Court.

Barry Fox, aged 22, of Bluebell Avenue, Peterborough, admitted causing grievous bodily harm but denied knowing that Special Constable Peter Robinson, who was in uniform, was a policeman until after the punch was thrown.

# No-smoking day on March 12

Smokers who give up the habit during the National No-Smoking Day campaign on March 12 will save at least 2,000 years of human life, according to a survey by the Health Education Council of the previous two anti-smoking days.

Mr Donald Reid, campaign chairman, said at the launch in London yesterday that 100,000 smokers, including more young men and women aged under 30, would die this year from smoking-related diseases in Britain. Of those deaths, 77,000 would be directly attributable to smoking, he added.

# Hillwalkers safe after snow ordeal

Searchers and RAF mountain rescue teams, who defied gale-force winds and sub-zero temperatures, called off their hunt last night after Mr Robert Hughes, in his fifties and his daughter Gillian, aged 10, walked down safely from the snow-bound 3,000ft Carneddau range in Snowdonia.

The two had set off on a New Year's Day hill-walking trip.

# Freeing firms from red tape

The politics of unemployment: 4

When Mrs Margaret Thatcher met President Reagan in Washington last February she went out of her way to describe their economic discussions as "excellent". What seems to have particularly fired the Prime Minister's enthusiasm was the topic of flexibility - the relative ease with which small businesses could start up and what the President said about how small businesses have provided the bulk of more than 30 million jobs created in the US over the past two decades.

Although the process of removing red tape from small business - and easing what the Government sees as "rigidities" in the labour market, such as minimum wage legislation - has already been under way before February, Mrs Thatcher's visit appears to have accelerated the process.

Unlike special measures such as the Community Programme and the Youth Training Scheme, deregulation is very much a Thatcherite policy. The most significant deregulatory step which the Government has already taken has been to reduce significantly the scope of the 26 wage councils which set rates of pay for 2.7 million workers and which the Government insists have contributed to unemployment. Young workers are being removed from their scope and the council's rights limited to fixing minimum rates of basic pay for adult workers.

But the Government's plans are much wider. In July Lord Young, of Graffham, then Minister Without Portfolio, published a White Paper, *Lifting the Burden*, making it clear that all new legislation would be scrutinized to ensure that the impact on business, and small business in particular, would be as slight as possible. It defined a broad range of areas in which it intended to reduce the "administrative and legislative" regulations on enterprise.

Many of those, such as health and safety, fire precautions and planning permission, are controversial. Others such as valued added tax would require concerted EEC action.

But all the measures are intended to remove burdens which ministers see as inhibiting the start and expansion of

In the fourth of five articles on government attempts to reduce unemployment before the next general election, Donald MacIntyre, Labour Editor, looks at the Thatcher administration's efforts to remove red tape and regulations which he believes are curbing the growth of small businesses.

new businesses. Most imminent is a revision of the Use Plus Order, which was originally set up to allow land and buildings to be used for various purposes without planning permission but is now hopelessly outdated.

That will be re-vamped, in the words of the White Paper to "take account of the requirements of the typical 'high tech' firms where manufacturing, office research and development, warehousing and other activities may be carried on in a single building". And this year Lord Young will step up the programme by publishing a second White Paper outlining the further deregulatory plans.

On employment protection, ministers have indicated they will not change existing law further after extending to all companies the two-year qualifying period before a worker can make a claim for unfair dismissal. But Lord Young has made it clear he will press for the EEC to scrap its plans for significant increases in maternity and paternity leave.

The White Paper came after a separate but linked exercise in which small businesses were surveyed on their attitudes to administrative and legislative burdens as part of a scrutiny undertaken under Mr David Trippier, the minister responsible for small firms who, significantly, has now moved in the same role to the Department of Employment. Interestingly, most businesses were not particularly critical of bureaucracy as a factor inhibiting their expansion. They were more concerned about problems in raising finance.

The conviction of Lord Young and other senior ministers that deregulation is an essential to job creation stems partly from the belief that the American labour market has shown much greater flexibility

than the UK and that this is a big factor behind the substantial fall in unemployment: since 1982 in the US. The opposing view is that the US budget deficit and President Reagan's expansionary fiscal policy, in general, is a much more important factor.

There is a widespread view that many Americans are willing to drive thousands of miles if necessary to secure a job in another town or city. In Britain, the reluctance of workers to leave their communities is said to be compounded by a housing policy which makes it all but impossible to find accommodation. The Georgian and Scottish accents in Coventry, Corby and the Staffordshire coalfields, however, show that historically, some sections of the British workforce have been willing to move, and a recent Manpower Services Commission survey of US labour statistics concluded that the American workforce may be "less geographically mobile than is often supposed".

The underlying assumption that US unemployment has fallen because there is a more flexible labour market there has also been challenged strongly in an article by Mr Len Shackleton in the Royal Bank of Scotland Review, which includes a critical look at whether wages councils have really contributed to unemployment.

Mr Shackleton summarizes the claims of those in favour of abolishing the councils that up to 300,000 jobs might be created, and of opponents who suggest that abolition would have only created 7,600 jobs over five years. He favours a more neutral estimate that the registered unemployment total would have been reduced by no more than 50,000.

Ministers remain unwavering in their commitment to deregulation. The measures outlined in last year's White Paper and those that will be included in this year's may or may not be desirable in themselves but the impact on unemployment is uncertain.

Tomorrow: Where are the new jobs going to come from?

# Liberals to hold 'summit'

Liberal MPs, councillors, and prospective parliamentary candidates are to gather at a conference in Yorkshire later this month to discuss the structure of a possible Alliance government and strategy after the next general election.

The conference, to be addressed by Mr David Steel, the Liberal Party leader, will be at the Barden Bridge, West Yorkshire, the headquarters of the Association of Liberal Councillors, a principal activist power-base of the party.

Liberal leaders of the Alliance groups on councils where Liberals hold a balance of power will be taking a leading part in the conference.

The discussion of structure, organization and style of an Alliance government will include a review of ministers, the role of the Civil Service and ways in which the Alliance could apply its "partnership" approach to society and the economy to the operations of government.

MPs will be drawing on the experience of councillors in negotiating with other parties in situations where they find themselves holding the balance of power.

# Watson shares lead after chess victory

By Harry Golombek, Chess Correspondent

William Watson, aged 23, an English international master, won in energetic style against Pia Cramling in the fourth round of the Hastings Premier chess tournament on Wednesday and came out with three points to give him a share of the lead.

In the fifth round, Greenfield, Hjartarson, Petursson, and Watson are all adjourned with three points while Michalchisin won against Formanek to finish the round with three points.

Fedorowicz, adjourned against Watson after 41 moves, and seems to be winning. Conquest and Hjartarson are adjourned with Hjartarson a pawn up.



Newscasters Jan Leeming (left) and Moira Stuart, who are to co-host a Saturday weekly news review programme on BBC2 to be called NewsView. The programme, which starts tomorrow, combines news and sport coverage with the News Review, previously seen on Sundays.

# Thatcher in exchange of letters over Westland proposals

The following is the text of a letter from Sir John Cuckney, chairman of Westland, to Mrs Margaret Thatcher.

Dear Prime Minister,

In view of the response you made to a question in the House of Commons on the 19th December that major procurement decisions are a matter for the Government as a whole, it would greatly help my Board to know if Westland would no longer be considered a European company by the Government if a minority shareholding in the company were held by a major international group from a Nato country outside Europe.

This question is of fundamental importance in view of the statement in a letter from the Procurement Executive, Ministry of Defence to Lloyds Merchant Bank dated 24th December that only by joining the so-called European consortium would Westland be in a position to take responsibility for the British share of European helicopter collaborative projects.

Yours sincerely,

John Cuckney

Mrs Thatcher's reply, dated January 1, was as follows:

Dear Sir John,

It has naturally been the Government's concern that a British helicopter design, development and manufacturing capability should be possible in the United Kingdom, despite the present difficulties of your company. I understand that both the proposals Westland now have under consideration are intended to achieve that objective. As long as Westland continues to carry on business in the UK, the government will of course continue to regard it as a British and therefore European company, and will support it in pursuing British interests in Europe.

Government policy will remain that the United Kingdom should procure its helicopters from the most cost-effective source. Against this background, the government would wish to see Westland play a full part in existing and future European collaborative projects. Some of these are still at a very early stage and all of them require the agreement of the companies and governments - including HMG - concerned. In this connection you should be aware of indications from European governments and companies that they currently take the view that a number of projects in which Westland is co-operating with other European companies may be lost to Westland if the United Technologies/Fiat proposals are accepted.

It is for you to assess the significance of these indications. But of course British participation is itself an important element in the viability of European collaborative projects. And I can assure you that, whichever of the two proposals currently under consideration the company choose to accept, the Government would continue to support Westland's wish to participate in these projects and would resist to the best of its ability attempts by others to discriminate against Westland.

I have not dealt with the question of the possible consequences for Westland's present relationship with Sikorsky of a decision to accept the European consortium's proposals. You will no doubt have made your own assessment of these.

Yours sincerely,

Margaret Thatcher.

The following is the text of a letter dated December 30, 1985, from the Prime Minister to Mr John Smith, Labour spokesman on trade and industry.

Dr Mr Smith,

Thank you for your letter of 26 December.

I do not agree that the national interest would be served by the Government acquiring a substantial holding in the Westland company. The world helicopter market is highly complex, international and competitive. Westland itself as a private sector company is in the best position to judge how to improve its prospects in that market. That is why the Government's policy stated by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry in the House on 16 December and reaffirmed by myself on 17 and 19 December has been that the company must determine its own future.

The Board of Westland have given their view that the company's future lies in association with a substantial international business. The Government's concern is that they should be allowed a genuine choice. Proposals from two separate international groups have been put to Westland and are under consideration by the company. It will be for the shareholders in Westland to decide which of these proposals to accept.

Yours sincerely,

Margaret Thatcher

Handwritten Arabic text at the bottom left corner.

# Many tourist hotels fail to meet safety standards, consumer group warns

By Patricia Clough

Some hotels used by British tourists in Italy, Greece, Portugal, Spain and Yugoslavia are "positively unsafe" and many fail far short of British safety standards, the Consumers' Association said yesterday.

The association said it had also found evidence of safety hazards at a number of British centres which run children's activity holidays "to suggest that there are serious grounds for concern".

In its quarterly magazine, *Holiday Watch*, the association calls for properly enforced international safety standards. It also advises holidaymakers to take out substantial insurance.

After examining 100 hotels in five countries, inspectors reported that:

- Lifts without internal doors were common, despite widely publicised dangers. A British boy aged two was badly injured after slipping and trapping his arm between the shaft wall and the moving lift.
- Railings on stairs and balconies were often flimsy or had gaps large enough for a small child to get through. Many swimming pools lacked life-saving equipment.
- Almost all the hotels lacked fire-safety provisions.

The Consumer Association named two hotels it considered hazardous. The Hotel Quarteira, in Quarteira, Portugal, had many dangerously low

window sills in bedrooms, there were loose wires and sockets, a lift with only three sides and unmarked and poorly-lit steps in public areas.

The Hotel Jorge V, in Torremolinos, Spain, had stair handrails with 21-inch gaps between the bars, and no handrails at all on the landings. The bedroom balconies had horizontal, i.e. climbable, railings with gaps of seven inches between them.

*Holiday Watch* says tour operators should put pressure on hotels to improve standards and should warn clients of potentially serious hazards. Failure to do so should constitute negligence.

Safety standards in 20 similar British hotels inspected at the same time were much higher than the foreign hotels, but even they were not completely

hazard-free, the association said.

In the January edition of its regular *Watch*, the association reported "unnecessary and avoidable" safety hazards after inspecting 12 centres offering children's activity holidays and urged parents to personally check on arrangements beforehand.

- Examples included: Archery practice in an open sports field with nothing to prevent children going behind the target.
- Large areas of exposed, non-toughened glass where children could crash through.

*Watch* called on the Government urgently to consider guidelines on how such holidays should be run, and called for a formal system of registration and inspection.

## Heathrow's high-style food

Airport food has got better but many meals end up second-rate and expensive because restaurant staff may be trying too hard, according to a report today in *Holiday Watch*, the Consumer Association magazine.

Caterers at airports should give more emphasis to providing meals and snacks which could be done well and cheaply, the magazine said.

Terminal 2 at Heathrow was rated as the most pleasant to eat, with top marks to the Inn Place at Terminal 1. Gatwick showed the most difficulty in coping with the numbers of passengers, Manchester airport food varied more than the other airports, with top marks to the Lancaster Room and worst marks to the Market Place.

## Aids threat to nervous system

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

The Aids threat may be more serious than previously predicted because of evidence that the virus might infect brain tissue and damage the central nervous system.

Between 100,000 and one million people in the United States may develop Aids-related brain conditions in the next 15 years, two US scientists said in a letter to the British journal, *Nature*, published yesterday.

The scientists said the slow progressive nature of the conditions should motivate politicians, health workers and scientists to establish "a unified plan for Aids prevention on local, national and international scales".

Their letter comes after growing recognition among scientists that the acquired immune deficiency syndrome virus, known as HTLV-III, may infect brain tissue, promoting the formation of antibodies in the cerebrospinal fluid.

The virus may be directly responsible for some of the damage done to the nervous

system of some Aids patients. More worrying is the fact the virus has been found in the tissue of people without overt Aids.

It is not yet known with what frequency HTLV-III reaches the brain of those who have been infected with the virus.

In an editorial, *Nature* said: "There is a danger that Aids infection may be hidden in the brains of human beings much as the herpes simplex virus (which causes cold sores) may linger dormant in the peripheral nervous system, bursting out only from time to time."

"There is a possibility that HTLV-III will lodge in infected people's brains, serving both as a cause of direct neurological damage and as a reservoir for the infection of others."

"Plainly there is an urgent need that this possibility should be explored, not least because the virus in the brain may be less accessible to drugs. Plainly that will take time."

In the letter, which the journal describes as having

"plainly been written to scare", the authors, a pathologist and a physician, said the implications for the US economy, its health care system and the "emotional state of society" were unprecedented.

The authors, Dr Cecil Fox and Dr M. Cotler-Fox, said that even if their estimates of Aids-related neurological disease are in error by one or more orders of magnitude, "the tragedy is still shocking". *Nature* commented: "The recognition that there are probably neurological consequences of infection by HTLV-III makes a serious problem of public health still worse."

It said a strategy for containing Aids should consist of only two components - some means of slowing down the spread of infection, and some means of preventing infection of those at risk.

"The benefits will emerge only slowly and the prospects for prophylaxis and cure are still distant", the journal said.



Miranda Worsley of Sotheby's showing exhibits from the Rule Britannia maritime exhibition in aid of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution which opened yesterday at its New Bond Street, London, premises and runs until January 29. The exhibits have been borrowed from various museums, galleries and private collections to depict the near 400 years from the Armada of 1588 to the Falklands conflict of 1982.

## Egyptian mummy is X-rayed

By Colin Hughes

A 1,900-year-old mummy of an Egyptian baby is up for sale at £6,500 after its owner had it X-rayed at a private clinic.

Mr Michael Furman, a central London antiques dealer, took advantage of the holiday lull at the Private Patients Plan Clinic in New Cavendish Street to learn more about the 14-inch-long bundle.

Mrs Ray Badger, senior radiographer, said the task presented no problems. She produced pictures disclosing under the mummy's bandaging and case decorated with Egyptian symbols and the picture of a child's face, a small amulet probably of gold leaf on the baby's chest.

Mr Furman said: "I wanted to do the X-rays because we know so little about its origin, beyond its being 1st century AD. It's a beautiful work of art in excellent condition, but it would be nice to know whether it's a boy or a girl."

## Beef prices steady as supplies decline

By Hugh Clayton

There will be less British beef this year but no steep price rises, the Irish Livestock & Meat Board predicted yesterday. The board, an official body promoting beef and lamb exports from the Republic of Ireland, said that beef output in 1986 would drop much faster in Britain than in the rest of the EEC.

But the board said in its annual review that it did not expect any shortages because of "a continuing underlying weakness in beef demand". One reason was that ample supplies of pork at moderate prices were making beef look expensive.

Another could be that "dietary and health considerations may be adversely affecting beef demand in particular". In any case the board did not expect any big changes in meat consumption in the new year because demand seemed to be near saturation level.

That meant that even if prices dropped sharply people would not buy much more meat. The board expected beef

	EEC	UK	Ireland	France	West Germany
1975	24	25	23	30	23
1980	24	22	25	32	24
1986	25	21	28	32	23

Source: Eurostat (EEC average includes Greece)

## Share of household spending on food down to 20%

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Spending on food has dropped to a fifth of total household expenditure, compared with nearly a third 20 years ago. Instead, families spend proportionately more on housing and transport, according to the annual Family Expenditure Survey.

That is due, not to a drop in food consumption but because, for most people, steady growth in real incomes has released cash for spending on other things.

The results of the survey, based on a sample of 7,081 households in the United Kingdom, shows that the average household spent £151.92 a week in 1984, of which £31.43 was on food.

The survey, used to help calculate the retail prices index, records that weekly spending on housing was £27.41, and on transport and vehicles, £22.77.

The most significant change in the spending pattern of the average household is a decline from about 30 per cent 20 years ago to 20.69 per cent in 1984 in the share of spending taken up by food.

Housing accounted for 11 per cent of spending in the mid-1960s, but by 1984 that had increased to 15.8 per cent. Similarly for transport and vehicles, up from 11.5 per cent to 15 per cent.

The proportion spent on fuel, light and power, 6.2 per cent in 1984, has remained steady, while the share of spending taken up by alcohol and tobacco has slipped from 10 to 7.6 per cent.

As might be expected, the proportion of spending taken up with necessities varies according to income.

Low income pensioner households allocate more than 30 per cent of their spending to food, and 16 per cent to fuel, light and power.

That contrasts with the richest 20 per cent of households, where only 17 per cent of expenditure is on food and 4 per cent on fuel, light and power.

There are also big spending differences according to whether the head of the household is employed. The survey shows that average spending where the head is unemployed was £131.92 in 1984, two-thirds of the level for corresponding households with the head in work.

The unemployed maintain, or even increase spending on tobacco and fuel, relative to the employed. However, the relative spending of households with unemployed heads on services, durable household goods, clothing and footwear, was down sharply.

Less than half of low income pensioners have central heating, compared with nearly 80 per cent for families of two adults and two children.

Overall, 66 per cent of households in the sample had central heating, 61 per cent had one or more cars, 62 per cent washing machines, 97 per cent refrigerators, with the same proportion having television sets, and 78 per cent telephones. *Family Expenditure Survey 1984* (Stationery Office, £15).

## Independent schools in high demand

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

The teachers' pay dispute, now in its eleventh month, is boosting interest in the private sector as more and more parents choose independent schools.

Inquiries made by *The Times Educational Supplement*, published today, show that in certain areas of the country, especially London, applications to independent day schools have increased by 20 per cent at the expense of local state schools. The rise in applicants has come well before the normal closing date for entrance examinations.

The Independent Schools Information Service said yesterday that it had no information to suggest that there was a boom, but it had asked the heads of its 1,400 member schools not to publicise increases in applications during such a sensitive time for state schools.

Most heads while reluctant to be quoted about the increase in applications, remark privately that industrial disruption in state schools is an important factor. Another is parents' dissatisfaction with local state schooling. The general complaint is that children aged seven and over are not being "stretched".

The *TES* quotes a large boys' day school in west London as receiving six inquiries a week from desperate parents of O-level candidates, begging for a place. A girl's day school nearby reported seven inquiries in 10 days from parents with daughters at comprehensives. Both independent schools were full.

Many of London's independent day schools are bursting at the seams, in spite of fees of £500 to £850 a term. Emsayeh School in south London managed to squeeze in an extra 100 boys last autumn; it will not be able to do so this year.

Applications to London's preparatory and pre-preparatory schools are also booming, particularly in the more exclusive areas. James Allen's girls school in south-east London reports an "absolutely amazing increase" in applications to the junior school. For those aged seven and over there are likely to be nine candidates for every place this year.

Dulwich College preparatory school has no places left at all for next autumn, and the junior department of South Hampstead Girls High School has already closed its list for 1988.

Outside London, the *TES* found a boom in independent school applications in Birmingham and Leicester. The independent grammar school started in Leicester five years ago has grown from 90 to 450, and demand is still rising.

## Concern for health of protest wife

By Richard Dowden

Mrs Jill Blonski, who has gone on hunger strike to try to persuade the Soviet authorities to allow her Russian husband to join her in Britain, has been told by her family doctor that her health will be damaged if she continues to starve.

Dr William Telfam, who has known her for more than five years, said he had examined Mrs Blonski, who had gastric ulcers, and was worried by her decision to go on hunger strike.

Mrs Blonski, aged 33, of Newquay, Cornwall, said yesterday she was in her sixteenth day of hunger strike and was determined to go on. She is taking tea and coffee but no protein foods.

## Knife ordeal of royal coiffeur

Two masked burglars threatened to chop the fingers off the Princess of Wales's hairdresser in a New Year's Eve attack, it was disclosed yesterday. They burst into Richard Daltoo's flat in Kensington, west London, and held a knife to his throat, demanding money.

When they saw he was wearing gold rings they threatened to cut off his fingers to get them. Mr Daltoo, aged 35, became the Princess's hairdresser last year.

## Sunday booking

The Thomas Cook chain of travel agents will open 300 of its shops on Sundays throughout this month to take summer holiday bookings, because of the tour operators price war which has led to some companies so far selling three times as many holidays as they did last year.

## Life saver

Lifeboats were called out more than 3,000 times in 1985, at least eight times a day, and a total of 1,373 lives were saved, an average of more than three a day, according to provisional figures issued yesterday by the Royal National Lifeboat Institution.

## Gee still critical

Dustin Gee, aged 43, the comedian and impressionist, was still critically ill yesterday after collapsing during a performance of *Cinderella* at Southport Theatre on Wednesday. He suffered a heart attack.

## Lynott 'serious'

Phil Lynott, aged 35, the rock singer formerly with Thin Lizzy, was still seriously ill in Salisbury Infirmary yesterday, more than a week after collapsing with an infection of his kidneys and liver.

## Busy firemen

London Fire Brigade received 148,737 calls for help in 1985, nearly 30,000 more than in 1984, a spokesman said yesterday.

## Troops at Heathrow again

Armed troops with light tanks were patrolling Heathrow airport yesterday for the second consecutive day. The troops took up position early in the morning deploying Scorpion tanks, tracked armoured personnel carriers, and Land Rovers at Heathrow's tunnel entrance. The vehicles also patrolled the airport's perimeter road and central terminal area.

## Betting on coal before St Leger

Churchill's Cabinet of 1955 never failed in its scope of priorities. An item in the spring was to settle the date of the St Leger race meeting. Traditionally the race, at Doncaster, was held on a Wednesday, and attracted miners from the surrounding Yorkshire coalfield. If there was a significant drop in coal production that week, the Cabinet decided, the senior steward of the Jockey Club was to be approached and the St Leger transferred to a Saturday.

In the last months of his premiership, Churchill's health was evidently failing. The Public Record Office contains a file full of prospectuses from hearing aid companies and papers from technicians, all trying to tackle the difficulty of the Prime Minister's hearing.

Amplifiers were fitted in walls at No 10 and in the Map Room at the Ministry of Defence, where he spent much time; the loudspeaker behind his seat in the House of Commons was given extra volume. He was offered a "lorgnette-type" hearing aid and one that fitted into a fountain pen.

Churchill's curiosity continued unabated. One file is devoted to his request for information about "flying saucers". "What's the truth, let me have a report," he wrote. The Air Ministry replied that an intelligence study had been carried out on flying saucers in 1951 and officially they did not exist.

The president of the Board of Trade, Mr Peter Thorneycroft (now a peer) came up with the then heretical idea that to cut then pressure for wage increases there should be an increase in unemployment. Daringly he suggested joblessness should be allowed to increase from just under 1 per cent to somewhere between 2 and 3 per cent. Tomorrow: Secret ballots and assessing the Argentine army. Leading article, page 9

## Churchill obsessed with 'influx of non-whites'

In the second part of a survey of the Cabinet documents for 1955 released under the 30-year rule, DAVID WALKER finds the Governments of Winston Churchill and Anthony Eden preoccupied with non-white immigration and refusing to join the nascent European Economic Community

The repatriation of thousands of non-white immigrants was contemplated by Sir Anthony Eden's Conservative Government. According to a Cabinet minute dated 3 November, 1955, it considered admitting immigrants to work "for a period not exceeding five years". They would then be sent home. That scheme "might meet the present need for labour with less prejudice to long-term social conditions".

The Government evidently envisaged a scheme such as the *Immigration Programme* adopted by the West Germans to recruit Turkish workers for employment but not settlement. Throughout 1955 the Conservative Government was convinced that action had to be taken to stem what papers consistently refer to as the "influx" of non-whites, especially West Indians. Immigration from India and Pakistan was at that stage considerably less and considered to be a problem for the future.

According to a file of Churchill's correspondence the ageing prime minister became obsessed with the issue and pressed the Home Secretary, Gwilym Lloyd George, for reports. In a lengthy note, Lloyd George reported to the Cabinet that Britain had approximately 50,000 coloured citizens who were for the most part law-abiding, though there is evidence that coloured men play a large part in the illicit "traffic in Indian hemp". They were not thought to be making "undue demands" on National Assis-

ance, the predecessor of Supplementary Benefit. The problem was mainly housing. He concluded: "It is questionable whether race relations would not deteriorate if there were a significant increase in the coloured population."

One voice in the Cabinet - probably belonging to Lord Salisbury, Lord President of the Council and a Tory grandee - feared the "dilution of Britain's ethnic heritage". The Cabinet minute says "if immigration from the Colonies and, for that matter, from India and Pakistan, were allowed to continue unchecked there was a real danger that over the years there would be a significant change in the racial character of the English people."

But the Cabinet could not agree on what to do. Alan Lennox-Boyd, the then Colonial Secretary, was adamant that immigration controls restricted to the inhabitants of British colonies in the West Indies and Black Africa would be seen as racially discriminatory and could jeopardise relations within the Commonwealth. Lord Home (later prime minister) was Sir Alec Douglas-Home's Commonwealth Relations Secretary. He feared that discrimination would not go far enough. "We do not wish to keep out immigrants of good type from the 'old Dominions', he is reported as saying.

The Government was worried that legislation to control colonial immigration might not be passed by Tory MPs who had shown substantial opposition to private members



A young Jamaican arriving in London in 1948 among a party of 500 seeking work in Britain. By 1955 the Cabinet was discussing repatriation.

legislation on the subject. Sir Anthony Eden eventually pushed discussion of the subject to a Cabinet committee chaired by Lord Kilmer, the Lord Chancellor.

Despite the immigration issue, the Cabinet believed Britain's destiny lay with what Churchill still called the Empire rather than Europe. Reporting on the results of the original conference of the European Economic Community, R. A. Butler, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said it was "not for us". The Cabinet disliked the idea of a discriminatory trade bloc in Europe.

There were other suspicions, too. The Germans had been pressing for the early release of

Maclean. During 1955 it emerged that they were in Moscow and the Cabinet pondered whether to set up a committee of inquiry into the affair. Mr Harold Macmillan, the Foreign Secretary, produced a memorandum arguing for an inquiry with a tightly defined agenda. He cited a hoary principle of Albert and the Lion: "Sum one up to be summoned, so that was decided upon."

The present Lord Stockton peppered his Cabinet colleagues with witty and sharp memos on a series of issues often outside his ministerial brief. The Cabinet files contain one couched "Dizzy with Success", a mixture of harangue that Britain had not yet accustomed itself to the post-war world of growth and affluence, and concrete prescriptions for curbing inflation.

When Minister for Housing in 1953, Mr Macmillan had urged high levels of public spending on housing. Now, however, he wanted housing subsidies cut.

The year 1955 was a classic example of the stop-go economic policy where chancellors in the 1950s and 1960s attempted alternately to push and pull the economy by means of adjustments to the bank rate credit restrictions, but rarely engaged in a fundamental review of the scale of public expenditure.

The president of the Board of Trade, Mr Peter Thorneycroft (now a peer) came up with the then heretical idea that to cut then pressure for wage increases there should be an increase in unemployment. Daringly he suggested joblessness should be allowed to increase from just under 1 per cent to somewhere between 2 and 3 per cent.

# Israeli troops search for Shia gang after border town hit by rocket attack

From Ian Murray Jerusalem

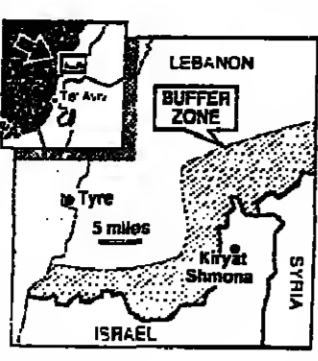
Israeli troops were last night combing southern Lebanon for a gang which fired a Katyusha rocket into the northern town of Kurvat Shmona early yesterday morning. A splinter group of the Amal Shia Muslim militia said it was responsible for the attack, the first on the border town for more than four years.

Only a few cars and a building were damaged by the rocket and no one was injured, but the fact that it succeeded in hitting the town brought memories of the period before the Lebanese war in 1982 when it was a frequent target for rockets.

Israel claimed it was to prevent this kind of attack that it invaded Lebanon in 1982 in what is still officially known as "Operation Peace in Galilee". Since it withdrew most of its troops last June, there have been a number of Katyusha attacks on Lebanon at irregular intervals but none until now has hit anything but open countryside.

Israeli security forces have helped the "South Lebanon Army" (SLA) in recent months to capture a number of groups with the rockets inside Lebanon, sometimes outside the so-called "security zone" which Israel has created along its northern border.

On Tuesday night at least three Katyushas fell in the Galilee panhandle of Israel not far from the Kurvat Shmona, and the SLA claim there was been a steadily increasing number of attacks on its positions in the past few days, perhaps to mark the 21st anniversary on Wednesday of the formation of the Palestinian Fatah group.



The SLA is reported to have been involved in heavy fighting involving artillery and tank gun exchanges near the Christian strongholds of Jezzine and Falous on Tuesday night and Wednesday morning. The SLA is also reported to have been shelling the outskirts of Sidon.

Early on Wednesday morning Israeli troops are reported to have engaged a group near the village of Shakra in the security zone, killing one man and capturing a Katyusha, together with a rifle and ammunition.

According to a Foreign Ministry spokesman yesterday, the situation was similar to that in 1982 before the invasion, "but you cannot draw from that practical conclusion that we will act as we did in 1982". He said Israel would ensure that its population in the north "lives as far as possible without Katyushas. How we are going to do this, we will decide."

He said there was a tense situation in the north because of missiles along the Syrian border and in Lebanon, and because of attacks from the north, "which, needless to say, have Syrian backing".

# Big rise in Lebanon deaths

Beirut (Reuters) - More than 3,600 people died violently in Lebanon in 1985, the country's eleventh year of sectarian clashes, political turmoil and foreign attacks. Security, hospital and political sources said the death toll of 3,675 was nearly 60 per cent up on the 1984 figure of 2,161.

The worst year so far was 1982, when Israel invaded. As many as 20,000 people may have died that year, according to unofficial estimates.

Last month, when many Lebanese hoped a militia peace pact would end a decade of civil war, had the lowest monthly casualty figure of 1985, with 98 killed.

Of the 1985 total, 715 deaths were unaccounted for or were the result of non-political violent crime.

Foreigners killed in Lebanon included US navy diver Robert Stethem, a passenger from a Trans World Airlines plane hijacked from Athens to Beirut on June 14.

Five French observers monitoring buffer zones between rival Lebanese militia died in separate incidents during the year, and the body of Mr Denis Hill, the kidnapped British teacher, was found in Beirut on May 25.

A Soviet Embassy official, Mr Arkady Katkov, one of four Soviet Embassy workers kidnapped on September 30, was found dead in Beirut two days later.

The sources said that 293 people were killed in attacks by the Israeli armed forces and their militia allies in various parts of the country during the year.

They said Lebanese guerrillas killed 37 Israelis and 88 Israeli allies or their supporters in the south, where Israel maintains a "security zone" along its border.

Car bombs killed 313 people, and 371 others died in clashes between leftist militias and the Lebanese Army on Beirut's green line battlefield and the mountains overlooking the capital.

Pitched battles between Syrian-backed leftist parties and Muslim Sunni fundamentalists erupted in the northern town of Tripoli in September, killing 581 people. Another 632 people died in clashes between Palestinian and Shia Muslim militiamen in Beirut in May, June and September.

# Jail siege highlights cells crisis

From Trevor Fishlock New York

"You quit treating us like dogs and this wouldn't happen," a desperate man shouted to police surrounding a maximum security jail seized by prisoners.

Inside the West Virginia penitentiary yesterday about 300 men, some armed with home-made knives, kept 16 people hostage. They demanded to meet the state governor to discuss grievances.

The governor retorted that he would not talk until the hostages were released. Police in riot gear made plans to "take back the institution".

The trouble highlights the crisis in many US prisons. A record number of Americans are behind bars because of the public demand both for longer sentences and for more crimes to be punished with jail terms. The result is that many prisons are chronically overcrowded.

The crowded conditions in the West Virginia jail were declared unconstitutional by a judge in 1983. He ordered improvements, but because nothing has been done the prisoners are suing the authorities. The 12-year-old jail has an official capacity of 650. There are 750 in the cells.

About 200 of the prisoners were involved in the rebellion. They seized prison staff and an outside caterer and took over the main floor. There was a report that a prisoner was dead. Inmates shouted to police that they were being treated "like trash" and wanted to be treated as humans. They sent out a message saying they did not wish to be violent or to escape, but wanted better living conditions.

Two hostages, one a prison officer with heart trouble, were released yesterday, leaving 16 inside.

# Hu shows the flag in occupied islands

From Mary Lee, Peking

Mr Hu Yaobang, the Chinese Communist Party's General Secretary, made a new year visit to the People's Liberation Army garrison on the Paracel Islands, sparking more rumours that he is preparing to take over from Mr Deng Xiaoping as chairman of the powerful Central Military Commission in 1987.

Last year Mr Hu visited army battalions stationed along the border with Vietnam and retraced part of the PLA's historic Long March route in central China.

The Paracel Islands - which the Chinese call Xisha - were captured by China in January, 1974, when they were still under South Vietnam. After armed conflict broke out between China and Vietnam in 1979, over Hanoi's occupation of Cambodia, the Vietnamese have linked a withdrawal of troops from Cambodia to Chinese withdrawal from the Paracels.

In his new year message to the Paracel garrison, Mr Hu reiterated that China would support "the Sihanouk-led resistance against Vietnamese aggression to the end".

# Harvard professor quits over funding by CIA

From Our Own Correspondent, New York

A department head at Harvard University is leaving his post for failing to disclose that the Central Intelligence Agency paid the research costs of a book he wrote and funded a university conference.

Harvard is concerned, embarrassed and divided by the affair. Some of the staff think it has damaged Harvard's reputation for independence.

The CIA paid \$107,430 (\$71,000) as a research grant for a book, *Saudi Arabia: The Ceaseless Quest for Security*, by Professor Nadav Safran, director of the university's Centre for Middle Eastern Studies.

The agency also paid \$45,700 towards a conference on Islamic fundamentalism at the university last year.

Mr Safran is to quit the directorship of the Centre for Middle Eastern Studies but will remain on the university staff.

The nature of his contract with the CIA broke Harvard's strict rules that staff must notify the university when accepting research money from government or business. In particular, such funding should not have strings attached that would affect academic freedom.

The CIA contract gave the agency the right to review and censor the book manuscript and said Mr Safran should not tell his publisher where the research money came from.

Mr Safran said he thought the CIA was "like any other source of funds; and he felt there was no need to disclose its involvement."



Indians who made asses of themselves during the new year celebrations, many in drunken brawls, are paraded by police through Delhi on donkeys, some of the offenders wearing signs warning others against bad behaviour.

# Paris bomb link sought in Argentina

From Diana Geddes Paris

French counter-espionage agents are still holding three men, two Portuguese and an Egyptian, who were arrested as they were about to plant a bomb in the Jewish synagogue in the Rue Coppenic, in the fashionable 16th arrondissement of Paris.

The men, caught red-handed with bomb-making material and maps in their hotel room here on Sunday night, claim to have been paid 100,000 pesetas (about £450) by a mysterious Palestinian organization advocating "the Christian revolution against the Jewish enemy".

# Pentagon lists Libyan targets for terror attack reprisals

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

The Pentagon has prepared a detailed list of principal targets in Libya that could be hit in retaliation for terrorist attacks supported by the regime of Colonel Gaddafi.

The contingency plan was drawn up on the orders of the White House. Although officials insist no operations against Libya are contemplated, the move demonstrates mounting US alarm at Colonel Gaddafi's support for terrorist organizations. The Provisional IRA is among groups known to have benefited from Libyan training.

The Reagan Administration hopes to translate last Friday's terrorist atrocities in Rome and Vienna into a concerted international campaign of economic sanctions against Libya. However Britain, West Germany, Italy, France and Japan - the biggest exporters to Libya - appear unwilling to take decisive action against Colonel Gaddafi, particularly in view of strong Libyan denials of involvement in the raids and the lack of hard evidence of complicity.

Even so, Administration officials insist they detect signs that West European countries may at last be reviewing their policies.

In encouraging a more hostile international climate towards Libya, the US is attempting to demonstrate an intimate and increasingly dangerous relationship between Colonel Gaddafi and Abu Nidal, the renegade Palestinian terrorist widely believed to have masterminded Friday's raids.

Although Washington has stopped short of directly accusing Libya of complicity in the attacks, officials say there is strong circumstantial evidence. The State Department said Abu Nidal had masterminded more than 60 terrorist attacks in eight years, 20 of them in the past year.

"The likelihood of Libyan financing, safe haven and logistical assistance should be very helpful to his future international terrorist operations," it said in a special report on his group.

# Hijacker's trial to open next week

A Maltese magistrate's court will begin to hear evidence on Monday in the case brought by the police against Omar Mohammed Ali Reza, the only survivor of the group who hijacked an Egyptian airliner to Malta last November (Austin Sammut writes). The trial will be held at Fort St Elmo, a former British garrison in Valletta, currently occupied by the Maltese armed forces, for security reasons.

# Gunmen briefed at the Hilton

Vienna (Reuters) - Three Palestinian gunmen who attacked the Vienna international airport last Friday were given their final instructions by a fourth man over breakfast in the city's Hilton Hotel, an Interior Ministry spokesman said yesterday.

He said the fourth man, who has disappeared, ordered the gunmen to take Israeli hostages, force their way onto a waiting plane of the Israeli airline El Al and fly to Tel Aviv. They were to explode the plane "in or over Tel Aviv".

Three people died and 40 were injured in the Vienna attack, which coincided with a Palestinian guerrilla attack on Fiumicino airport Rome in which 16 people died and 74 were injured.

Austrian security officials have closely interrogated the two gunmen who survived the Vienna attack. The third was killed in a gun battle with police.

ATHENS: The Greek Government said yesterday it had ordered the release of eight Arabs, two of them women,

# Bonner may have heart surgery

Boston (AFP) - Mrs Yelena Bonner, aged 62, wife of the Soviet dissident, Dr Andrei Sakharov, may have undergone heart surgery because therapy and heart pills do not appear to be working well, her family said.

Mrs Bonner suffered a heart attack in April, 1983. Two weeks ago doctors at Massachusetts General Hospital performed tests to determine whether her coronary artery was partly blocked.

Later they said they did not plan to operate and prescribed medication. They also recommended she give up smoking.

Mrs Bonner came to the US last month to have medical treatment and to visit her daughter and mother, who live near Boston. She had a tumour, which proved to be benign, removed from her lip.

# Guyana deports British priest

Port of Spain - (Reuters) Guyana's left-wing Government has deported Father Patrick Connors, aged 51, a British-born Jesuit priest who defied an order to leave the country by December 31.

He was arrested in Georgetown and put on a flight to London, but he left the plane during a stopover in Trinidad, the Roman Catholic Archbishop Mgr Anthony Pantin, told reporters here.

# Toll on drivers

Bergen (Reuters) - The western Norwegian port of Bergen began charging a toll of about 40p on motorists driving into the city and municipal authorities said the levy was the first of its kind in West Europe.

# Marceau better

Paris (Reuters) - The French mime, Marcel Marceau, aged 62, left hospital three weeks after undergoing emergency surgery twice for a perforated stomach ulcer. He was said to have recovered well.

# World service

Harare (Reuters) - Zimbabwe's state-run radio will launch an external broadcasting service to beam programmes to the outside world in the next two years to counter South African propaganda.

# Ship seized

Copenhagen (AFP) - Iran seized the Danish freighter *Horland* and its crew of seven after stopping it east of the Strait of Hormuz carrying explosives which Denmark says were intended for Bridge and road work in Oman.

# Statue riddle

Oslo (Reuters) - The Norwegian adventurer and archaeologist, Thor Heyerdahl, who is 71, plans to return to the South Pacific this month to investigate the mystery of the Easter Island statues, hundreds of rock figures left behind by a prehistoric people.

# Tourists angry

Jakarta, Indonesia (AP) - West German tourists overturned furniture at a hotel on the island of Bali. They were enraged at being turned away despite reservations, according to a newspaper report here.

# Fatal crash

Wellington (AFP) - Seven unidentified people died when a light plane crashed near New Zealand's South Island town of Picton. Police said the victims were four adults and three children.

# Howe visit

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, is to visit Oman, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait for talks between January 11 and 15. The agenda will include the Iran-Iraq war and bilateral trade.

# Suicide blast

Portland, Oregon (AP) - A man who disconnected a gas pipe to commit suicide caused an explosion that destroyed his home and damaged dozens of others, killing himself and injuring at least 10 people.

# Black police killed in tribal clashes over homeland

From Ray Kennedy Johannesburg

The mutilated bodies of two black policemen were found yesterday in the Moutse area north of Pretoria, where violent tribal clashes have erupted over government plans to redesignate it as part of an "independent" homeland.

Elders of the Sotho-speaking Pedi tribe at Moutse claimed that as many as 17 "vigilantes" from the neighbouring KwaNdebele had been killed in the fighting which erupted on New Year's Day.

Mr Maredi Cheue MP for the area in the Lebowa legislative assembly, which has declined Pretoria's offer of "independence", said the youth of Moutse was alerted by clarion calls sounded from kudu horns - "The traditional method of warning our menfolk that they

must come out from their homes armed to defend their people".

The police said in a brief statement that the bodies of the policemen were found near their burnt-out car and that two men with bullet wounds were being detained in hospital in connection with their deaths. They confirmed the deaths of six other people in the fighting.

The civil rights organization, Black Sash, said at a news conference in Johannesburg yesterday that, although the incorporation of Moutse into KwaNdebele has not been officially gazetted so far, gangs from KwaNdebele were acting like "an invading army".

A spokesman said: "The situation is potentially more bloody than in any township in South Africa."

Mr Cheue accused the police in the area of looking on while

graphed, said many injured people were being treated in hospital.

The government's decision to incorporate the Moutse area into KwaNdebele seems to be at odds with recent statements by Mr P. W. Botha, the state President, of his intention to restore South Africa citizenship to millions of blacks who have lost it through the process of establishing "independent" homelands.

It also appears to conflict with the policy of creating homelands for different ethnic groups. Only about 40 per cent of KwaNdebele's 500,000 population is Ndebele while the 120,000 people of the Moutse area belong to the Pedi tribe.

Mr Cheue said that fewer than 10 per cent of Moutse's people were Ndebele speakers. He said the area had potential reserves of coal and asbestos, the only hospital in a large area

# Ship's cook smuggled ammunition

Auckland (AFP) - The cook on board the French cargo ship *le de Lumiere*, which was seized on Sunday with a load of ammunition bound for New Caledonia, confessed to the press yesterday that he had smuggled the ammunition on board.

"I did it to make money," the cook, M Michel Four, aged 29 and a French citizen, said to reporters here. "I am not concerned by the New Caledonian problem. I do not regret anything."

Police, who have charged M Four with possessing explosives, said he told them he had bought 5,000 rounds of ammunition in Sydney.

The *le de Lumiere* had been bound from Sydney to New Caledonia. New Zealand police have said privately they believe the munitions were destined for anti-independence groups in the French territory.

# Portuguese pledge on EEC unity

By Nicholas Ashford Diplomatic Correspondent

Portugal will participate actively in constructing a united Europe, Senhor Anibal Cavaco Silva, the Portuguese Prime Minister, said in a statement marking Portugal's formal accession to the European Community.

The statement, a copy of which was released to *The Times*, emphasizes that Portugal intended to play a leading role in reforming Community institutions.

"Portugal will actively participate in the construction of Europe," the statement said.

The Portuguese Government supports the main guidelines adopted in the last European Council in Luxembourg, which will be vital for the construction of a true European union and to reinforce cohesion and solidarity among member states."

Implications of entry, page 6

# Carrington steps warily in Madrid

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Lord Carrington, the Nato Secretary-General, arrived in Madrid yesterday for a 48-hour visit inevitably dominated by Spain's now pressing need to obtain a referendum vote in favour of remaining in the alliance.

The commitment to the referendum will be repeated to Lord Carrington, Spanish diplomatic sources indicated yesterday. Madrid, however, continues to refuse to accept full military integration.

Senor Felipe Gonzalez, the Prime Minister, having wrung from his Socialist party a pro-Nato position, invited Lord Carrington and now wants to exploit the visit in the run-up to the referendum planned for mid-March.

But pacifist and extra-parliamentary left-wing anti-Nato groups, supported by the Communists, scheduled demonstrations last night outside the Foreign Ministry where where Lord Carrington was to start talks with Senor Francisco Fernandez Ordóñez, the Foreign Minister.

The centrepiece of the visit will be the talks today with the Prime Minister, continuing over lunch.

Senor Gonzalez himself went to Spanish television at peak time over Christmas to confess he had been "mistaken" in his previous anti-Nato stand and had learnt from the experience of Spain's three-year-old membership of Nato that this way the country's national interests are best defended.

Lord Carrington, making his first official visit to Spain since taking up the Nato post, has always been extremely careful to insist that it is for the Spanish people to decide the Nato question. He will also be received by King Juan Carlos and have talks with Senor Narcis Serra, the Defence Minister.

Leading article, page 9



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# Sandinistas confident that decline of Contras will accelerate in 1986

From John Carlin, Managua

Nicaragua's Sandinista Government believes its Washington-backed guerrilla enemies, known as the "Contras", have lost the military initiative and are, at present, headed for defeat, a conviction shared by independent observers in Managua.

"We can state with certainty that the mercenary army has entered an irreversible process of decomposition and decline," the Defence Minister, Señor Humberto Ortega, said. The decline, he predicted, will intensify during 1986.

Western observers in Nicaragua believe the very survival of the Contras, whose aim is to overthrow the Marxist-leaning Sandinista Government, depends on the US Congress approving a Reagan request for military aid, expected early this year.

The estimated 15,000 Contras - described as "freedom fighters" by President Reagan - have received more than \$70 million in support from Washington and from private conservative organizations in the United States. Yet, after four years' fighting, they have not managed to keep pace with a rapidly evolving Sandinista army, now numbering some 65,000 troops.

"The fact is," said one

Western diplomat, "that the so-called co-Somoza National Guards who lead them are woefully incompetent at conducting guerrilla operations."

Besides, the vast majority of the Contra fighters are young, poorly educated peasant men - "hillbillies", one senior diplomat called them - some of whom, as the Peruvian author Mario Vargas Llosa has written, have been led to believe they are "engaged in a crusade against the forces of Satan".

The Sandinista Popular Army, as it is known, has received high-quality training from Cuban advisers working in Nicaragua. The fruits of that training have been seen this year with the Army taking on, and beating, the Contras at the guerrilla game of fighting in the mountains - without defined fronts - in small, highly mobile units.

Contrary to the norms of guerrilla warfare, it is the guerrillas, and not the government Army, that are suffering the worst casualties, according to official figures. The Sandinista Army killed 4,608 Contras in 1985, losing 1,143 soldiers themselves.

Señor Ortega, brother of President Daniel Ortega, said

the rebels had been reduced to despair at their failure to achieve their main objective of "liberating" territory and setting up a provisional government.

The Contras have not been able to take, much less hold, any target of political importance. As a consequence, their capacity to mobilize civilian support has been insignificant.

However, the presence of the Contras - whom President Ortega perceives as merely the ramshead vanguard of an American-troop invasion - has obliged the Sandinistas to spend 40 per cent of the national budget on defence. The effects on the subsistence economy have been disastrous and laid the basis for a groundswell of discontent among the country's three million people - a possibility causing alarm among senior government officials.

Also worrying to the Sandinistas are reported Contra attempts to form a so-called "internal front", a base from which to launch potentially destabilizing urban attacks.

But there is no sign as yet of any Contra presence in Managua, the remarkably tranquil capital, or any other major city.

# Ozal hopes to sign \$3bn Iran trade deal

From Rasit Gurdilek, Ankara

Mr Turgut Ozal, the Turkish Prime Minister, today starts a three-day official visit to Tehran hoping to sign a multi-billion dollar trade deal and expedite a massive oil and gas pipeline project.

Two hundred officials and businessmen will accompany Mr Ozal. With a visit to Baghdad planned for later in the year, he is also expected to attempt further mediation to end the Gulf War, despite visible anger over alleged Iraqi interference with the visit.

Mr Ozal concluded his first visit to Tehran by Mr Mustafa Tinnaz Tinnaz, the Turkish State Minister for Economic Affairs.

Mr Tinnaz, who went to the Iranian capital to work out the details of this year's bilateral trade deals was stranded there for more than a day when a plane sent to fetch him was allegedly intercepted by Iraqi planes and forced to return.

After Ankara waited in vain for a guarantee of safe passage from Baghdad, the plane had to fly through Soviet air space to pick up the minister and his entourage.

Although Mr Ozal's flight was reportedly cleared by Iraq, he was to make the same detour to demonstrate his Government's displeasure over the incident.

On his return on New Year's Day, Mr Tinnaz reported agreement for the volume of two-way trade this year to be at least \$3 billion (£2 billion) and to be better balanced.

Border killings: Turkish border patrols shot dead four Iranian men who attempted to cross into Turkey illegally, the independent Hurriyet news agency said (AP reports).

The dispatch, quoting Mr Zekeriya Oztosun, prosecutor in the border province of Van, said the Iranians did not heed the patrol's call to halt and identify themselves. They started running and were shot as suspected smugglers. Another Iranian in the group survived and is in custody, the agency said.



A small child joins adult mourners showing their grief at Mrs Blackburn's funeral.

# 20,000 mourn white activist

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

More than 20,000 blacks from all over the Eastern Cape region, one of the worst affected in 15 months of South African township unrest, poured into Port Elizabeth yesterday for the funeral of Mrs Minnie Blackburn, the white civil rights activist killed in a car crash last Saturday. She was 55.

They filled the streets for more than 200 yards around St John's Methodist Church in the centre of the town.

Over loudspeakers the crowd, some members of which wore the colours of the outlawed African National Congress, heard Dr Allan Boesak, president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches and patron of the United Democratic Front, say at the inter-denominational service: "She anticipated what this country can and should be. In South Africa there are precious few white people who have gained so much credibility and earned so much respect from us."

Mrs Blackburn, a mother of seven and a provincial councillor for the official opposition Progressive Federal Party (PFP) in Port Elizabeth, died in a head-on car crash on her way home from visiting a black township near the Eastern Cape town of Oudtshoorn.

Dr Brian Bishop, a PFP provincial councillor in Cape Town and a prominent civil rights activist.

The organizers of Mrs Blackburn's black consumer boycott, Mr Mxuseli Jack, blamed apartheid for her death. He said she had been visiting Oudtshoorn to save black residents "from the vicious state of emergency".

# Singapore heads for zero growth this year

From Paul Routledge, Singapore

The full scale of the economic cyclone that hit Singapore last year has been disclosed by the Prime Minister, Mr Lee Kuan Yew, in a new year message calling for wage restraint and higher productivity.

He told the island's two and a half million people that the economy declined by 1.7 per cent in 1985, against a steady 8 per cent growth for the first part of the decade. And the official outlook for 1986 is "zero growth".

Foreign investment commitments in the republic fell by a staggering 39 per cent during the year, and more than 90,000 jobs were lost - though two-thirds of these were foreigners. Unemployment in Singapore is

# Record crumbles

Singapore's eight-year strike-free record crumbled yesterday when workers at an American oil equipment company stayed away in support of demands for the reinstatement of six colleagues dismissed last year. (Renter reports). A spokesman for Hydril Private said only 15 out of 120 employees reported for work.

now above 4 per cent and will rise to 5.6 per cent when the latest wave of school leavers hits the labour market.

Singapore is not alone in experiencing economic recession, as the accompanying table shows. The boom days in South-East Asia are over for the foreseeable future.

Lee said much of the blame for his country's poor performance at the door of wage rises outstripping productivity. Inflation was only 0.5 per cent last year, yet workers enjoyed real wage increases of 2.5 per cent while improving their productivity by only 1.2 per cent. "We just cannot afford this," he insisted.

# GROWTH FIGURES

Country	1984	1985	1986
		(Estimate)	(Projection)
Singapore	8	-1.7	Zero
Malaysia	8	3.5	3
Thailand	6	4	4
Philippines	-5.5	-5	1
Indonesia	5	2-3.5	2-3

Source: Asiaweek, Far Eastern Economic Review and official.

# Aruba's big day marred by tragedy

Oranjestad, Aruba (Reuters)

Aruba's first home-rule government took office yesterday after the Caribbean island split from the other five islands of the Netherlands' Antilles federation at midnight.

A seven-man Cabinet led by the Prime Minister, Mr Henny Eman, was sworn in by the Governor Felipe Tromp after the first sitting of Aruba's new parliament.

The arid island of 67,000 people off the coast of Venezuela became fully self-governing yesterday but the Hague will remain responsible for defence and foreign affairs until Aruba achieves complete independence in 1996.

Wednesday's night's ceremonies were marred when the Opposition leader, Mr Betico Croes, was seriously injured in a car crash less than three hours before midnight.

Mr Croes, aged 46, was responsible for setting Aruba on course for independence, but his centre-right People's Electoral Movement lost power to Mr Eman's four-party coalition in elections last November. Doctors said Mr Croes had suffered brain damage and was still in a coma.

Police said just over 1,000 people attended an open-air ceremony in Oranjestad at midnight where the red, white and blue Antillean flag was lowered for the last time and Aruba's blue ensign with a single red star was raised in its place.

The new Government's first task will be to tackle an economic crisis caused by the closure of Aruba's huge oil refinery last March, leaving tourism as the only source of foreign exchange.

# French Alps ski deaths bring off-piste warning

From Diana Geddes, Paris

A warning of the great danger of off-piste skiing has been issued by the French mountain rescue service after the death this week of two more skiers in avalanches in the Mont Blanc area of the Alps, bringing last year's total of avalanche deaths on the French side of the northern Alps to 27.

Most of the accidents were caused by the imprudence of off-piste skiers who, with the development of more advanced equipment and the opening of new ski lifts into the high mountains, are becoming more and more numerous, according to M Claude Lovie, director of the Centre for the Study of Snow and Avalanches at Albertville, in Savoy.

"At present the snow which fell last weekend is not adhering to the previous layer of snow," he said. "That is because of the severe frost

which is preventing the two layers sticking together, and because the underlying layer has become hard and transformed as a result of the freezing conditions.

"The fresh snow could start to slip simply under the weight of a man. This phenomenon is all the more dangerous because it is likely to continue until the end of March, unless there is a deep thaw."

BERN: Eveline Wirth, acrobatic skiing world champion, was rescued with the help of a police dog after being buried by an avalanche in the Bernese Oberland, police said yesterday (AP reports).

Ms Wirth, who is Swiss, had been in a group of six skiing down outside marked trails to the 5,971m Hehnenmoos pass when the snowslide struck on New Year's Day.

# Britain ready for A-test meeting

From Our Correspondent, Sydney

Three British officials are due in Canberra next week for the first formal meeting in what are expected to be lengthy and awkward negotiations on the report of the McClelland Royal Commission into British nuclear tests in Australia.

The subject has the potential to sour Anglo-Australian ties considerably.

The talks, scheduled for January 9 and 10, will concentrate on the commission's main recommendation - as far as Britain is concerned - that clean-ups of contaminated test sites should be paid for by the British Government.

No agenda has been set and the meeting will be only a preliminary step. Both sides are expected to treat the talks as a sounding-board in preparation for a meeting at ministerial level later in the month.

The commission, under the presidency of Mr Justice James McClelland, found that Britain had a legal and moral responsibility to clear toxic waste left by the nuclear testing programme conducted in the outback

between 1952 and 1963, in spite of releases issued by two previous Australian governments.

Estimates of the cost of such an operation are largely guesswork, but a figure of Aus \$150 million (about £72 million) is frequently mentioned.

Another of the commission's recommendations bound to be discussed is the creation of a group including representatives of the British and Australian governments to supervise the clean-up and future of the worst contaminated site Maralinga in South Australia.

Like Britain, the Australian Government has not responded officially to the report of the commission, which was tabled in Parliament on December 5.

Britain will be represented at the talks by Mr Alan Furness, head of the South Pacific department at the Foreign Office; Mr Michael McCaggart, an assistant director at the Ministry of Defence; and Ms Judy Douglas, a Treasury solicitor.

# Canberra and Jakarta seek agreement

Hawke's good-neighbour policy

From Stephen Taylor, Canberra

A confidential strategic assessment which caused Canberra acute embarrassment and chagrin when it was leaked in 1984, summarizes neatly the rationale behind Australia's current efforts to put relations with Indonesia on a better footing.

The basis of the document's reasoning was that though there is no immediate threat to Australian security, it is only prudent to consider that a danger might one day be posed by a close neighbour which is at the same time the world's fifth largest country, a vast archipelago of 13,000 islands and more than 150 million people.

Relations have ranged from bad to awkward since the Indonesian invasion of Timor a decade ago. Australian public opinion has tended to the view that Indonesia is inherently expansionist, while Jakarta believes it was let down by an Australian Government which had privately endorsed a takeover.

Many of the problems, according to both sides, stem from considerable cultural differences - between subtle Javanese circumspection and Antipodean directness. On top of that, a democracy in which an aggressively free press plays an important role is bound to have its difficulties with a militaristic neighbour which has a variable record on human rights.

A senior Defence Department official in Canberra says: "As a nation we have always had something of a 'yellow-peril' phobia. We used to worry about the Japanese, then it was the Chinese. In the seventies Indonesia became the big bogey."

But the Hawke Government, maintaining a trend of recent administrations to realign Australian priorities towards East Asia, and in particular China, Japan and the Asean nations, has worked at improving Indonesian relations.

And after the December visit by Mr Mochtar Kusumaatmadja, the Indonesian Foreign Minister, officials here are satisfied that there is a new commitment by the Suharto administration to improving ties.

Mr Mochtar took back to Jakarta an invitation to President Suharto to pay an official visit, and while he was here said both countries were determined to concentrate on those issues on which they are in agreement rather than, as in the past, their differences.

A visit by President Suharto would be a significant step forward. The Indonesian leader, extremely cautious in any direct course of action, has previously eschewed the opportunity to visit Australia for fear of the likelihood of demonstrations.

Mr Mochtar's experience will have done the prospect of a visit no harm. The Foreign Minister encountered only two

small demonstrations by left-wing groups, and at a National Press Club luncheon, where he was expected to face a grilling, the questioning was neutral. The perennial irritant, East Timor, did not even feature in questioning and as an issue seems to have been laid to rest in Australian consciousness.

One problem with the potential not only to harm relations but to cause positive hostility between Australia and Indonesia remains. Jakarta's policy of resettling citizens from the overcrowded island of Java in other territories has provoked an ethnic conflict in Irian Jaya where indigenous Melanesian guerrillas of the OPM (Free Papua Movement) want an independent state.

The significance of this for Australia is that Irian Jaya borders on Papua New Guinea, which Canberra administered until independence a decade ago and for which it still feels a certain responsibility. The presence of 10,000 Irianese in PNG refugee camps which the guerrillas reportedly treat as sanctuaries and recruiting centres raises the spectre of hot-pursuit raids by Indonesian forces into PNG.

Mr Mochtar maintains that would never happen without the agreement of the PNG Government, though it is questionable whether the influential Indonesian military would concur.

# Mrs Aquino smiles on communists

From Stephen Taylor, Canberra

Baguio, Philippines (AFP) - The presidential candidate Mrs Corason Aquino said yesterday that she would accept help from communists as she opened a well-received two-day campaign tour of President Marcos's home region.

She also said her party, the United Nationalist Democratic Organization (Unido), would unveil a "minimum" programme of government today. She indicated that Unido would push ahead with the country's land reform programme and the immediate reorganization of the Government.

She added that she was reconsidering an earlier call for the removal of US bases from the country. She told a press conference after addressing more than 10,000 people in the central square of this northern city: "If they tell me that they will not resort to violence, I guess it's all right."

The 52-year-old widow of Mr Marcos's chief political opponent, Benigno Aquino, said she would welcome communists in her government if she unseated Mr Marcos in the special elections on February 7, provided they renounced violence, participated and won in an election.

Her remarks came as Mr Marcos accused his political opponents of forming alliances with outlawed communists and encouraging foreign intervention.

# Hopes rise of Afghanistan pact before next summit

From Michael Binyon, Washington

In spite of United States and Pakistani caution over the latest informal Afghan suggestions for the withdrawal of Soviet troops, there are hopes here that an historic agreement ending the six-year conflict can be reached before the autumn visit to Washington of Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, the Soviet leader.

Three of the four elements are virtually in place. But the key issue of the withdrawal of 118,000 Soviet troops remains the main stumbling block, with the United States and Pakistan insisting that all else depends on it. However Washington has already said it is ready to play the unusual role of guarantor of a political settlement in a country bordering the Soviet Union.

The United States has accepted the draft guarantees presented by the United Nations, and the outlines of a comprehensive settlement are now in sight. Three of the main documents have been virtually completed at the Geneva negotiations: non-interference and non-intervention; the voluntary return of Afghan refugees; and international guarantees on the neutrality of Afghanistan.

Any agreement would have an immediate impact on United States policy. As President

Reagan told Mr Gorbachov in Geneva, the United States has spent over \$430 million (£299 million) since 1980 in helping Afghan refugees who have fled to Pakistan. United States aid to the Afghan rebels is now running at almost \$25 million a year, and covert assistance may add considerably to that sum.

American arms sales to Pakistan have been increased because of the conflict, and a real thaw in political relations with Moscow still depends on Soviet withdrawal.

An immediate cut-off of the United States military aid to the rebels could effectively end the armed struggle against the Kabul Government. An American pledge of non-intervention would also make it difficult for the United States to give open support to any subsequent movement to overthrow the government.

The latest Afghan ideas have also been received coolly in Pakistan. Islamabad said yesterday it had not seen the timetable given by Mr Shah Mohammad Dost, the Afghan Foreign Minister, to the US negotiator. Mr Dost said the timetable could be discussed only if Pakistan would agree to direct negotiations with him, which Pakistan has consistently refused.

# Kidnapped Australians describe 7-month ordeal in Kabul jail

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

An Australian couple kidnapped by a border tribe in Pakistan last May are on their way home after having spent seven months incommunicado in a prison in the Afghan capital, Kabul.

Dr Robert Williamson, aged 35, a hydrologist from near Melbourne, spent the last five months in solitary confinement. His wife, Miss Jennifer Lade, aged 32, was not allowed to see him for the whole time they were kept in Kabul. But she at least had some company in her cell - an Afghan woman - and a wood burning stove when the snows began.

"I was my own heating system," said Dr Williamson. "I had to spend the day wrapped in a blanket."

The couple were released to the British Embassy in Kabul on December 27 after the UN personal intervention of the Secretary General, Señor Javier Pérez de Celler, who twice interceded with the Afghan Foreign Minister, Mr Shah Mohammad Dost, in New York. Appeals were also made by the Australian Government to Kabul and Moscow.

"We didn't really believe we were free until we arrived in

Delhi," said Dr Williamson after flying from the Afghan capital in an Indian Airlines jet.

The Australian Government first learned that the couple were being held in Kabul on November 11 when a letter was received in the Australian Embassy in Pakistan, brought there by a member of the tribe which first captured them. In the letter Dr Williamson wrote that "we are being held by the authorities in Kabul".

Dr Williamson described to a press conference in Delhi how he was kidnapped. He was working on a UN-sponsored forestry project in Baluchistan. On May 18 he was giving his wife a weekend break from the Baluchistan capital, Quetta, by taking her to visit his project, which was undertaken to stimulate income generation for Afghan refugees.

Their vehicle was stopped by tribesmen from the Sasouli tribe, and they were taken off to captivity. "We spent 12 days on the Pakistan-Afghan border, enjoying tribal life," he said. "Then on May 30, we were captured by people in green uniforms who arrived in a green painted helicopter decorated with a five-pointed

red star. A second helicopter hovered nearby. We were flown to Kandahar and were kept there for three days. Then we were flown to Kabul."

While held in Kabul - "I do not know the name of the prison - it was an interrogation centre for people awaiting trial" - they were questioned by a young interrogator, who tried to find out whether they were spying for the United States.

The interrogator spoke no English, but was assisted by an interpreter "who spoke English badly".

Neither Dr Williamson nor Miss Lade complained of ill-treatment. "Except for being kept out of contact with the outside world," Dr Williamson said. "I was not bashed up."

The interrogator asked questions "personal, impersonal, pertinent, impertinent, you name it," said Dr Williamson. "They asked me everything from the number of dresses I had to the number of plates," said Miss Lade. "They asked me who paid for my state school education," said Dr Williamson.

One of the things they were accused of was entering Afghanistan illegally. "We said there were mitigating



Miss Lade and Dr Williamson telling journalists in Delhi of their days in captivity in Afghanistan after being seized by tribesmen.

circumstances though," said Miss Lade.

Dr Williamson said he had been ill for a time. "I was crook for a while," he said. "They called it *zafid*, the yellow disease. The cure was no fats in the diet, lots of fresh fruit and yoghurt. That was good."

The Williamsons were captured by the tribespeople as

# Hopes rise of Afghanistan pact before next summit

From Michael Binyon, Washington

In spite of United States and Pakistani caution over the latest informal Afghan suggestions for the withdrawal of Soviet troops, there are hopes here that an historic agreement ending the six-year conflict can be reached before the autumn visit to Washington of Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, the Soviet leader.

Three of the four elements are virtually in place. But the key issue of the withdrawal of 118,000 Soviet troops remains the main stumbling block, with the United States and Pakistan insisting that all else depends on it. However Washington has already said it is ready to play the unusual role of guarantor of a political settlement in a country bordering the Soviet Union.

The United States has accepted the draft guarantees presented by the United Nations, and the outlines of a comprehensive settlement are now in sight. Three of the main documents have been virtually completed at the Geneva negotiations: non-interference and non-intervention; the voluntary return of Afghan refugees; and international guarantees on the neutrality of Afghanistan.

Any agreement would have an immediate impact on United States policy. As President

Reagan told Mr Gorbachov in Geneva, the United States has spent over \$430 million (£299 million) since 1980 in helping Afghan refugees who have fled to Pakistan. United States aid to the Afghan rebels is now running at almost \$25 million a year, and covert assistance may add considerably to that sum.

American arms sales to Pakistan have been increased because of the conflict, and a real thaw in political relations with Moscow still depends on Soviet withdrawal.

An immediate cut-off of the United States military aid to the rebels could effectively end the armed struggle against the Kabul Government. An American pledge of non-intervention would also make it difficult for the United States to give open support to any subsequent movement to overthrow the government.

The latest Afghan ideas have also been received coolly in Pakistan. Islamabad said yesterday it had not seen the timetable given by Mr Shah Mohammad Dost, the Afghan Foreign Minister, to the US negotiator. Mr Dost said the timetable could be discussed only if Pakistan would agree to direct negotiations with him, which Pakistan has consistently refused.

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# Year to remember: anniversaries of 1986

The Abdication, the opening of the first Mersey Tunnel, the destruction of the Crystal Palace and King George V's death - all in this list of memorable dates

## JANUARY

- 2 Apsley Cherry-Garrard, polar explorer, born, Bedford, 1888.
- 5 Humbert Wolfe, poet, born, Milan, 1886.
- 6 Baldassare Peruzzi, architect and painter, died, Rome, 1536.
- 7 Catharine of Aragon, first wife of Henry VIII, died, Kimbolton, Huntingdon, 1536.
- 8 Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema, painter, born, Dronrijp, Netherlands, 1836.
- 11 Joseph Jackson Lister, pioneer of microscopy, born, London, 1786.
- 14 Ignace-Henri Fentin-Latour, painter, born, Grenoble, 1836.
- 16 Charles Colling, cattle breeder, died, Barnston, Durham, 1835.
- 16 Shapurji Saklatvala, politician, died, London, 1936.
- 17 Carlo Dolci, painter, died, Florence, 1628.
- 17 Amicars Ponchielli, composer, died, Milan, 1886.
- 17 Ronald Firbank, novelist, born, London, 1886.

- 24 Wilhelm Carl Grimm, folk-lore writer, born, Hanau, 1786.
- 24 Winslow Homer, painter, born, Boston, Massachusetts, 1836.
- 27 Ivan Pavlov, physiologist, died, Leningrad, 1936.
- 28 Daniel Charles Solander, botanist, born, Norrtand, Sweden, 1736.
- 29 Ann Lee, founder of the American Society of Shakers, born, Manchester, 1736.

## MARCH

- 1 William Johnson Fox, preacher and politician, born, Wrentham, Suffolk, 1786.
- 4 Oskar Kokoschka, painter, born, Pöchlarn, Austria, 1886.
- 4 David Rowlands ('Dewi Mor'), scholar and poet, born, Gouffon, Anglesey, 1836.
- 6 Sir Charles Napier, admiral, born, Merchiston Hill, Strirlingshire, 1786.
- 6 David (Davy) Crockett, politician and frontiersman, killed at the battle of the Alamo, San Antonio, Texas, 1836.

## APRIL

- 8 Louise Maria Hubbard (above), social reformer, born, St. Petersburg (Leningrad), 1836.
- 11 Sir Henry Seton Stewart, landowner, born, Allanton, Lanarkshire, 1836.
- 11 Earl Beatty, admiral of the fleet, died, London, 1936.
- 14 John Scott Haldane, physiologist, died, Oxford, 1936.
- 16 Giovanni Pergolesi, composer, died, Pozzuoli, Italy, 1736.
- 18 Eleutherios Venizelos, prime minister of Greece 1910-20, died, Paris, 1936.
- 20 Sir Edward Poynter, painter, FRA 1888-1918, born, Paris, 1836.
- 20 Robert Cunningham Graham, writer, died, Buenos Aires, 1936.
- 21 Alexander Glazunov, composer, died, Paris, 1936.
- 24 Nicholas Hawksmoor, architect, died, London, 1736.
- 25 St Margaret Clitherow, martyr (canonized 1970), executed, York, 1586.
- 30 Thomas Bourchier, cardinal, died, Knowle, Sevenoaks, 1486.
- 30 Frances Cornford, poet, born, Cambridge, 1886.

## MAY

- 5 Beatrice Harraden, novelist, died, Barton-on-Sea, Hampshire, 1936.
- 6 Oswald Spengler, philosopher, died, Munich, 1936.
- 10 Karl Barth, theologian, born, Basel, 1886.
- 11 William Farren, actor, born, London, 1786.
- 14 Edmund Henry Alenby, 1st Viscount Alenby, field-marshal, died, London, 1936.
- 15 Emily Dickinson, poet, died, Amherst, Massachusetts, 1886.
- 17 Thomas Erskine May, Baron Farnborough, author of *Treatise... Usage of Parliament* (1844; now in its 20th edition), died, London, 1886.
- 19 Anne Boleyn, second wife of Henry VIII, executed, London, 1536.
- 21 Carl Wilhelm Scheele, chemist, died, Köping, Sweden, 1786.
- 21 Leopold von Ranke, historian, died, Berlin, 1886.
- 24 Gabriel Daniel Fahrenheit, physicist, born, Danzig (Gdansk), 1686; he died, September 16, The Hague, 1736.
- 25 Joseph Rowntree, cocoa manufacturer and philanthropist, born, York, 1838.
- 27 Sir William Fettes, founder of Fettes College, Edinburgh, died, 1886.
- 29 Patrick Henry, American revolution leader, born, Studley, Virginia, 1736.

## JUNE

- 9 Elizabeth Garrett Anderson, physician and founder of medical school for women, born, Alceburgh, Suffolk, 1836.
- 10 André-Marie Ampère, physicist, died, Marseille, 1836.
- 10 Dame Henrietta Barnett, social reformer, died, London, 1936.
- 14 Charles-Augustin de Coulomb, physicist, born, Angoulême, 1736.
- 14 Gilbert Keith Chesterton, writer, died, Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire; Maxim Gorky, writer, died, Leningrad, 1936.

## JULY

- 2 Jacopo Sansovino, sculptor and architect, born, Florence, 1486.
- 4 Heinrich Kaminski, composer, born, Tiengen, Germany, 1886.
- 8 Joseph Chamberlain, statesman, born, London, 1836.
- 10 John Fall, Dean of Christ Church and Bishop of Oxford, died, 1886.
- 12 Desiderius Erasmus, scholar, died, Basel, 1536.
- 13 Clifford Bax, playwright, born, London, 1886.
- 17 John Collier ('Tim Bobbin'), author and painter, died, Milrow, Lancashire, 1786.
- 17 Tom Webster, sporting cartoonist, born, Bliston, Staffordshire, 1886.
- 18 Spanish Civil War began, 1936.
- 20 Sir Raymond Priestley, Antarctic explorer and academic, born, Tewkesbury, 1886.
- 23 Salvador de Madariaga, writer and politician, born, Corunna; Sir Arthur Whittan Brown, aviator, born, Glasgow, 1886.
- 28 Nathan Mayer Rothschild, founder of the house of Rothschild, died, Frankfurt am Main, 1836.
- 31 Franz Liszt, composer, died, Bayreuth, 1886.

## AUGUST

- 2 Louis Blériot, aviator, died, Paris, 1936.
- 9 Sir Samuel Ferguson, poet and antiquary, died, Dublin, 1886.
- 11 William Waynflete, lord chancellor 1469-80, died, South Waltham, Hampshire, 1486.
- 14 Sir Walter Besant, novelist, and philanthropist, born, Portsmouth, 1836.
- 15 Sir Henry Lytton, Savoyard, died, London; Grazia Deledda, novelist, died, Rome, 1936.
- 17 Frederick II, the Great, king of Prussia 1740-86, died, Potsdam, 1786.
- 17 Births and Deaths Registration Act, 1836, passed.
- 25 James Sack Buckingham, author and traveller, born, Flushing, near Falmouth, 1786.
- 27 Henry Crompton, advocate of trade unions, born, Liverpool, 1836.
- Eric Coates, composer, born, Huddon, Nottinghamshire, 1886.

## SEPTEMBER

- 1836 The Pilgrimage of grace began.
- 3 Daniel Mendoza, pugilist, died, London, 1836.
- 5 Jonas Hanway, traveller, philanthropist and inventor of the umbrella, died, London, 1786.
- 7 John Pond, astronomer royal 1811-36, died, London; Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, prime minister 1905-08, born, Glasgow, 1836.
- 8 Berkeley George Moynihan, 1st Baron Moynihan, surgeon, died, Leeds, 1936.

## OCTOBER

- 2 Augustus Keppel, Viscount Keppel, admiral, died, London, 1788.
- 3 Alain-Fournier, writer, born, La Chapelle-d'Angillon, 1886.
- 4 Lennox Robinson, playwright, born, Douglas, co. Cork, 1886.
- 5 William Tyndale, translator of the Bible, executed, Wiltshire, Belgium, 1536.
- 5 Antonio Secchi, composer, died, Paris, 1788.
- 7 Caroline Anne Bowler (Mrs Robert Southey), poet, born, 1786.
- 8 William Barnes, dialect poet, died, Winterbourne Came, Dorset, 1886.
- 15 Allan Ramsay, poet, born, Leadhills, Lanarkshire, 1886.
- James Holman, the blind traveller, born, Exeter, 1786.
- 16 John Clifton, Baptist minister and social reformer, born, Sawley, Derbyshire, 1836.
- 16 David Ben-Gurion, first prime minister of Israel, 1948-53, 1955-63, born, Płońsk, Poland, 1886.
- 17 Sir Philip Sidney, soldier and poet, died, Arnhem, Netherlands, 1586.
- 17 George Colman the younger, actor-manager, died, London, 1836.
- 20 Luke Fox, navigator, born, Hull, 1586.
- 27 James Macpherson, 'translator' of Ossianic poems, born, Ruthven, Inverness-shire, 1736.

## NOVEMBER

- 1 Nicholas Boileau, poet and critic, born, Paris, 1636.
- 2 Edward Colston, philanthropist, born, Bristol, 1686.
- 2 BBC high-definition television service from Alexandra Palace inaugurated, 1936.
- 5 Charles Sanford Terry, historian and Bach scholar, died, Aberdeen, 1936.
- 8 Fred Archer, jockey, committed suicide, Newmarket, 1886.
- 18 Sir Henry Rowley Bishop, composer, born, London, 1786.
- 18 Carl Maria von Weber, composer, born, Erfurt, Germany, 1786.
- 18 Sir William Schwenk Gilbert, playwright, born, London, 1836.
- 18 Chester A. Arthur, 21st president of the USA, 1881-84, died, New York City, 1886.
- 21 Sir Harold Nicolson, diplomat and author, born, Talvan, 1886.
- 26 John Loudon McAdam, roadmaker, died, Moffat, Dumfriesshire, 1836.
- 27 Antoine Charles Vernet, painter, died, Paris, 1836.
- 28 William Hawes, founder of the Royal Humane Society, born, London, 1736.
- 29 Sir Francis Burnand, editor of *Punch*, 1860-1906, born, London, 1836.
- 30 Crystal Palace, London, destroyed by fire, 1936.

## DECEMBER

- 1 Andrea Gabrieli, composer, died, Venice, 1586.
- 1 Mrs Emma Anne Paterson, trade unions organiser, died, London, 1886.
- 1 Severn tunnel opened for passengers, 1886.
- 4 Richard Westall, historical painter, died, London, 1836.
- 5 Constance Spry, flower arranger, born, Derby, 1836.
- 10 Luigi Pirandello, playwright, Nobel laureate, 1934, died, Rome, 1936.
- 11 John Mason, founder of New Hampshire, baptized, King's Lynn, 1586.
- 14 Frances Ridley Havergal, poet and hymn writer, born, Ashey, Worcester-shire, 1836.
- 20 Pietro Raimondi, composer, born, Rome, 1786.
- 29 Johann Baptist Schenk, composer, died, Vienna, 1836.
- 31 Dame Fanny Houston, philanthropist and patriot, died, London, 1836.



Palace drama: the end of the Crystal Palace in 1936 and (right) the end of King Edward VIII's reign, 10 days later

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- 28 William Hawes, founder of the Royal Humane Society, born, London, 1736.
- 29 Sir Francis Burnand, editor of *Punch*, 1860-1906, born, London, 1836.
- 30 Crystal Palace, London, destroyed by fire, 1936.

## DECEMBER

- 1 Andrea Gabrieli, composer, died, Venice, 1586.
- 1 Mrs Emma Anne Paterson, trade unions organiser, died, London, 1886.
- 1 Severn tunnel opened for passengers, 1886.
- 4 Richard Westall, historical painter, died, London, 1836.
- 5 Constance Spry, flower arranger, born, Derby, 1836.
- 10 Luigi Pirandello, playwright, Nobel laureate, 1934, died, Rome, 1936.
- 11 John Mason, founder of New Hampshire, baptized, King's Lynn, 1586.
- 14 Frances Ridley Havergal, poet and hymn writer, born, Ashey, Worcester-shire, 1836.
- 20 Pietro Raimondi, composer, born, Rome, 1786.
- 29 Johann Baptist Schenk, composer, died, Vienna, 1836.
- 31 Dame Fanny Houston, philanthropist and patriot, died, London, 1836.



18 Rudyard Kipling, writer (above), died, London, 1936.

## FEBRUARY

- 1 John By, engineer, died, Sherrif Park, Sussex, 1836.
- 2 Sir Owen Seaman, editor of *Punch* 1906-32, died, London, 1936.
- 3 Bernard Lintot, publisher, died, London, 1736.
- 4 Sir William Gell, archaeologist, died, Naples, 1836.
- 10 Sir William Dugdale, antiquary, died, Blyth Hall, Warwickshire, 1686.
- 16 Eleanor Sidgwick, principal of Newnham College, Cambridge, 1892-1910, died, Fisher's Hall, Woking, 1936.
- 11 James Cowles Prichard, physician, born, Ross, Herefordshire, 1786.
- 17 Randolph Caldecott, illustrator, died, St Augustine, Florida, 1886.
- 13 John Tulloch, Moderator of Church of Scotland, 1878, died, Torquay, 1886.
- 15 Edward Cardwell, Viscount Cardwell, military reformer, died, Torquay, 1886.
- 15 Basil Ringrose, buccannier, died, near Santiago, 1686.
- 21 Emil Hartmann, composer, born Copenhagen, 1836.
- 21 Leo Delibes, composer, born, St Germain du Val, 1838.
- 23 Albert Sammons, violinist, born, London, 1886.



8 Louise Maria Hubbard (above), social reformer, born, St. Petersburg (Leningrad), 1836.

- 11 Sir Henry Seton Stewart, landowner, born, Allanton, Lanarkshire, 1836.
- 11 Earl Beatty, admiral of the fleet, died, London, 1936.
- 14 John Scott Haldane, physiologist, died, Oxford, 1936.
- 16 Giovanni Pergolesi, composer, died, Pozzuoli, Italy, 1736.
- 18 Eleutherios Venizelos, prime minister of Greece 1910-20, died, Paris, 1936.
- 20 Sir Edward Poynter, painter, FRA 1888-1918, born, Paris, 1836.
- 20 Robert Cunningham Graham, writer, died, Buenos Aires, 1936.
- 21 Alexander Glazunov, composer, died, Paris, 1936.
- 24 Nicholas Hawksmoor, architect, died, London, 1736.
- 25 St Margaret Clitherow, martyr (canonized 1970), executed, York, 1586.
- 30 Thomas Bourchier, cardinal, died, Knowle, Sevenoaks, 1486.
- 30 Frances Cornford, poet, born, Cambridge, 1886.

- 1 Sir Thomas Burton, philanthropist, born, Castle Heddingham, Essex, 1786.
- 2 Jacob Tonson, publisher, died, Leabury, Herefordshire, 1736.
- 7 William Godwin the elder, writer, died, London, 1836.
- 8 Lily Elsie, actress and singer, born, Worsley, Yorkshire; first Home Rule for Ireland Bill introduced by Gladstone, 1886.

## MARCH

- 1 William Johnson Fox, preacher and politician, born, Wrentham, Suffolk, 1786.
- 4 Oskar Kokoschka, painter, born, Pöchlarn, Austria, 1886.
- 4 David Rowlands ('Dewi Mor'), scholar and poet, born, Gouffon, Anglesey, 1836.
- 6 Sir Charles Napier, admiral, born, Merchiston Hill, Strirlingshire, 1786.
- 6 David (Davy) Crockett, politician and frontiersman, killed at the battle of the Alamo, San Antonio, Texas, 1836.

## APRIL

- 5 Beatrice Harraden, novelist, died, Barton-on-Sea, Hampshire, 1936.
- 6 Oswald Spengler, philosopher, died, Munich, 1936.
- 10 Karl Barth, theologian, born, Basel, 1886.
- 11 William Farren, actor, born, London, 1786.
- 14 Edmund Henry Alenby, 1st Viscount Alenby, field-marshal, died, London, 1936.
- 15 Emily Dickinson, poet, died, Amherst, Massachusetts, 1886.
- 17 Thomas Erskine May, Baron Farnborough, author of *Treatise... Usage of Parliament* (1844; now in its 20th edition), died, London, 1886.
- 19 Anne Boleyn, second wife of Henry VIII, executed, London, 1536.
- 21 Carl Wilhelm Scheele, chemist, died, Köping, Sweden, 1786.
- 21 Leopold von Ranke, historian, died, Berlin, 1886.
- 24 Gabriel Daniel Fahrenheit, physicist, born, Danzig (Gdansk), 1686; he died, September 16, The Hague, 1736.
- 25 Joseph Rowntree, cocoa manufacturer and philanthropist, born, York, 1838.
- 27 Sir William Fettes, founder of Fettes College, Edinburgh, died, 1886.
- 29 Patrick Henry, American revolution leader, born, Studley, Virginia, 1736.

## MAY

- 9 Elizabeth Garrett Anderson, physician and founder of medical school for women, born, Alceburgh, Suffolk, 1836.
- 10 André-Marie Ampère, physicist, died, Marseille, 1836.
- 10 Dame Henrietta Barnett, social reformer, died, London, 1936.
- 14 Charles-Augustin de Coulomb, physicist, born, Angoulême, 1736.
- 14 Gilbert Keith Chesterton, writer, died, Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire; Maxim Gorky, writer, died, Leningrad, 1936.

## JUNE

- 9 Elizabeth Garrett Anderson, physician and founder of medical school for women, born, Alceburgh, Suffolk, 1836.
- 10 André-Marie Ampère, physicist, died, Marseille, 1836.
- 10 Dame Henrietta Barnett, social reformer, died, London, 1936.
- 14 Charles-Augustin de Coulomb, physicist, born, Angoulême, 1736.
- 14 Gilbert Keith Chesterton, writer, died, Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire; Maxim Gorky, writer, died, Leningrad, 1936.

## JULY

- 2 Jacopo Sansovino, sculptor and architect, born, Florence, 1486.
- 4 Heinrich Kaminski, composer, born, Tiengen, Germany, 1886.
- 8 Joseph Chamberlain, statesman, born, London, 1836.
- 10 John Fall, Dean of Christ Church and Bishop of Oxford, died, 1886.
- 12 Desiderius Erasmus, scholar, died, Basel, 1536.
- 13 Clifford Bax, playwright, born, London, 1886.
- 17 John Collier ('Tim Bobbin'), author and painter, died, Milrow, Lancashire, 1786.
- 17 Tom Webster, sporting cartoonist, born, Bliston, Staffordshire, 1886.
- 18 Spanish Civil War began, 1936.
- 20 Sir Raymond Priestley, Antarctic explorer and academic, born, Tewkesbury, 1886.
- 23 Salvador de Madariaga, writer and politician, born, Corunna; Sir Arthur Whittan Brown, aviator, born, Glasgow, 1886.
- 28 Nathan Mayer Rothschild, founder of the house of Rothschild, died, Frankfurt am Main, 1836.
- 31 Franz Liszt, composer, died, Bayreuth, 1886.

## Spanish business quakes as the taxman cometh

Spain and Portugal joined the EEC this week. Richard Wigg takes a look at the implications

The 10 nations of the EEC became the 12 nations on Wednesday, when the community welcomed two of its poorest and most backward neighbours Spain and Portugal. Both countries had viewed entry with mixed feelings. Portugal's pro-entry prime minister Mario Soares was heavily defeated in last October's general election, four months after the accession treaty was signed. And a British businessman with 30 years experience of working in Spain explained: "Joining Europe is for Spaniards rather like Franco's death, long expected but no one knows exactly what is going to happen when it occurs."

Both countries quickly had their first taste of Europe with the introduction from day one of value added tax, although in Portugal the effect will be muted by many exemptions, including foodstuffs. The average Portuguese family budget simply could not stand the inflationary impact of VAT. The government, however, looks to it to boost revenues, since an estimated 60 per cent of the Portuguese do not pay the taxes they should.

In Spain VAT has been labelled the European Tax in an attempt to shift its inevitable unpopularity. It sweeps aside a thicker of 25 Spanish taxes which were easier to avoid paying and which left tax inspectors in the dark about real levels of economic activity.

Howls of anguish have come from business men, in some cases now likely to pay taxes for



Iberian images: detail from Picasso's *Guernica* (left) and the Cristo Rei on the bank of the Tagus, Lisbon



the first time. Fear of the taxman has brought frenzied attempts to learn about VAT these last weeks.

Yet it is quite possible that British tourists will hardly notice the effects of VAT on their spending money. One of the most popular holiday areas, the Canaries, is exempt from VAT.

One of the key strategy decisions taken by the Bank of Spain and the government will be to continue the peseta's controlled slide next year to keep Spain's exports competitive in EEC markets. VAT rates - 6 per cent on non-luxury restaurants and passenger transport - reflect a policy decision to protect Spain's primary foreign exchange earner from the expected inflation.

Pedro, a Barcelona toy

"Our tariffs are to be cut back 10 per cent from March; and halved over the next three years. And in the spring we've got the annual wage negotiations, at least 8 per cent on labour costs." In the past two years 25 of Spain's 300 toy manufacturers have folded.

Spain has 600,000 small and medium-sized firms which, protected by licences, quotas, and the export subsidies, simply felt no need to merge.

In Spain's food industry, theoretically well-placed to enter EEC markets, 250 partially or completely foreign-owned firms, headed by Nestlé, already account for half the total turnover.

Señor Angel Panero, chairman of Spain's confederation of small and medium-sized firms, says gloomily: "We estimate up to 25 per cent of firms will disappear because of the EEC."

Textiles, shoes and some petrochemicals from Portugal are already worrying their Spanish neighbours. Portuguese labour costs are about one third of those in Catalonia. A trade agreement between the two countries provides for a four-year initial phase with import quotas for such sensitive products, but after that the Portuguese can freely enter Spanish markets.

In a hard-nosed political decision, taken by Señor Gonzalez and Señor Manuel Marín, his principal negotiator for EEC accession, Spain's powerful citrus fruit and fruit and vegetables sectors, already oriented towards EEC markets for years, have been set back by a 10-year integration period, all to placate the French. But Spain's oranges and lemons, and early tomatoes too, will in the medium term enjoy an assured and highly profitable place in the Common Market.

To secure that trade-off in Mediterranean products, Señor Gonzalez had to sacrifice the

many small dairy farmers of Northern Spain, the elderly peasants of Galicia with their two cows who come into the small towns daily and sell their milk illegally (and unhygienically). This age group is doomed anyway officials say.

A similar group will be affected by Portugal's accession. Small farmers over 55 years old will be offered bonuses to give up their smallholdings. Luis Valente De Oliveira, minister of planning, aims to cut the number of farmers by half in the next 10 years in an attempt to modernize the industry.

Almost 80 per cent of the country's one million farmers own less than 10 acres of land. They still account for 28 per cent of the total active population yet Portugal has import half its food. Cereal prices are 30 per cent above the EEC average while productivity

is less than one-third that of Portugal's new rivals.

The agriculture programme will be helped by a grant of £70 million ECUs (European currency units; there are 0.62 to the pound sterling). It has already received 725 million ECUs in pre-accession aid, but most of this has gone on infrastructure projects, little to agriculture.

These aid programmes should make the EEC more popular with the Portuguese over the next three or four years. Television programmes have revealed that, even in present year, many ordinary Portuguese had no idea what the EEC was.

Not so now in Spain, where on Wednesday, a public holiday, Spanish taxmen were giving the public its first taste of VAT, using the 6 per cent tax increase to round up their faces, ignoring the pre-Christmas cut in petrol prices.

## CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 839)

ACROSS

- Dreading (6)
- Two-tiered galley (6)
- Near offer (1,1,1)
- Border (6)
- Mistake (6)
- Conception (4)
- Singly (3,2,3)
- Visual effect (6)
- Brook (6)
- Every year (3,5)
- Deep cut (4)
- Immoral (6)
- Derivation (6)



# Not old-fashioned - commonsense

Early in 1985, when I wrote a column attacking the government's policy in a controversial field, a friend mentioned the piece, and its agreement with it, to the permanent secretary of the department concerned. The mandarin replied, with an air of regret that managed to be both charitable and dismissive: "Ah yes. But David is an old-fashioned sort of chap."

Well, I suppose it happens to all of us in the end. I have not, at 53, quite reached the age when all permanent secretaries begin to look young, but looking old-fashioned to permanent secretaries is no doubt the stage before it. I have been sufficiently shaken to ask myself as a New Year exercise, whether the charge is true and, if so, if there is anything I should do about it.

A literal-minded defence is not too hard to construct. For am I not the very model of a modern communicator? I watch television, I zoom round the world in 747s, I keep up with the political gossip of dozens of countries. I am instructed by my children in "teenspeak" and the finer points of the e-barts.

Am I not the possessor of a computer which I have learnt how to manipulate for all sorts of professional purposes? Can I not summon up a vast library of facts on my desk at the touch of a button? "Yes," replies the disembodied voice from Whistlath, "but your mind is irredeemably stuck in the 1960s and a lot of your attitudes in the 19th century. You are an elitist with a typically useless Oxbridge classical education. You belong to a class and a generation that cannot understand the ruthless, competitive modern world."

You are hung up on notions like outdated, *bi-coastal* and consensus politics and the Robbins Report and the Atlantic community and the European ideal and economic aid to the Third World. You sometimes sound like Ted Heath, for God's sake! Your sort made up the old Establishment and a right mess you made of it. Thank heavens Mrs Thatcher and her lot came and swept you all away."

There are a lot of possible replies to this list of crimes, ranging from "Well, there were actually some aspects of the welfare state I never approved of" to "You're from the same background as me, Mr Permanent Secretary, and you used to say and stand for most of the things that I do until self-interest caused you to adopt the Prime Minister's coloration."

But these do not really take the argument much further. We have all, in fact, had to change our tunes drastically in the last 20 years - partly because of Britain's continued economic weakness, partly because of changes in the international environment, and partly (to be fair) because the Thatcher "revolution" has carried conviction in some respects, the initial shake-up in British industry and the reform of trade union law being the most obvious.

The important question is not so much which "old-fashioned" (i.e. unfashionable) opinions and attitudes should be thrown out as which ones still deserve to be rescued from the Thatcherite holocaust.

A full answer to this question could only emerge over many articles, but my New Year reply comes under three summary headings, corresponding to three guiding principles of my youth.

● Pragmatism: One of the objects of the traditional British middle-

class "generalist" education was to instil the kind of self-confident scepticism that would enable a man to make reliable practical judgments.

The concept of "reliability" was limited in some ways by cultural conformity and imperial necessity and of course it was not thought until very late in the day that women might need the same qualities. But still, the system at its best taught people to stand on broad general principles, to clear their minds of cant, to be suspicious of ideology and ready-made solutions, and to look first for the answer that would work, even if consistency had to be invented afterwards.

In spite of all the contemptuous labels that have been hung round its neck in the past few years - "opportunism", "cynicism", "superficiality", "lack of conviction", "witness" and so forth - this commonsensical frame of mind, which naturally tends to centrism, has preserved us from extremism and folly in the past, and I think it has been the most dangerous deficiency of the present government.

● Responsibility: Our class system is dying, but only a very large country can maintain stability and efficiency without some kind of elite, preferably as open as possible to talent, but still confident of its abilities and legitimacy. One of our problems is that our elite has lost that confidence, and many of those who have pulled and are pulling it down have neither the real self-confidence nor the instinctive "feel" to take its place.

A meritocracy should try to preserve at least some of the virtues of the old paternalism, including the preservation of "high culture" and the operation of such ancient rules of thumb as "wealth is a trust" "power means responsibility" "see the men are fed first" and "leadership is one part decision, one part persuasion and one part example."

● Internationalism: British pragmatism has prevented us ever becoming quite so hooked on international rules as the Americans at their most moralistic, but there was a rough consensus, during the 20 post-war years in which my opinions on these matters were formed, around a self-interested, large-mindedness in British foreign policy.

We recognized, by and large, that for a country as economically vulnerable as our own, an orderly retreat from empire, participation in an open and generous international economic regime, a maximization of intangible cultural and historic assets, and a judicious trading of national independence for real influence, first with America and later with Europe, were in order.

Nobody need pretend either that we have always lived up to these principles, or that the present government has entirely abandoned them. But we often seem to me to be even crazier in our weakness than the Americans are in their strength to exchange "old-fashioned" Outward-lookingness for self-defeating nationalism and catchpenny isolation.

I can foresee that all three of these principles will come under fierce attack in 1986 - from pre-election populism, from protectionism, from sheer shortage of cash. But I am equally sure that anyone who unrepentantly proclaims their validity in January 1987 will still be in the present and the future, as well as the past, on his side.

moreover... Miles Kington

# The Bob and Mike Edline show

The runaway success of Bob comes from the presence in the world's news of Messrs Gelfand and Maxwell, both of whom have travelled the globe ceaselessly in an attempt to bring peace and quiet. Rupert again did quite well, but not quite well enough to make the top ten. Mr Murdoch, it should be recorded, took on American nationality during the year in order to qualify for ownership of American TV stations, thus becoming the first person who went to America for the sake of his TV, rather than leaving it. A late push saw Conrad and Eddie well up the list, and they may well stage the final cut next year. One odd feature was the good showing of David Herbert, but this is not expected to recur in 1986.

Now for the women.

- 1 Michael (-)
2 Maggie (1)
3 Di (2)
4 Nancy (4)
5 Raisa (-)
6 Madonna (-)
7 Martina (6)
8 Winnie (-)
9 Jackie (7)
10 Kerri (-)

This is the first time the women's list has been headed by a man's name, thanks entirely to the efforts of Princess Michael of Kent. Di has again done very well, despite the fact that Princess Diana hates the name and is never called by it. Raisa is a total newcomer; it is also the first Russian name for some time to make the top ten. Another oddity is Madonna, which is strictly speaking not a name at all but a title. Kerri is a New Zealand Maori female collective name, the first one ever to appear, and the last time Winnie was featured was not as a woman's name (Mandela) but a man's (Churchill).

Finally, it should be mentioned that if surnames were included as well, the most popular man's name would be Halley, the only man in 1985 who was never referred to by his first name. Except of course for Torville. Or is it Dean?

# Think small: Labour's line for '86

by Richard Heller

Unpleasant things are happening every day. Labour should find these things and exploit them.

We should concentrate on issues where people know that the government can make a difference - and on issues which Mrs Thatcher cannot evade. People might accept "world recession" as an excuse for mass unemployment but not for leaving a hole in their child's school roof. People might view the collapse of British manufacturing industry as a judgement of providence. They do not have the same view of waiting for hours in the rain for a bus. For that they wish to blame somebody. They may start by blaming the bus company, but from there it is only a small series of steps to blame the government.

Labour should stop trying to sell grandiose, abstract chunks of policy and instead focus on the many different issues which affect local and personal life. The individual schools repaired; the particular streets lit; the specific houses renewed; extra buses running; parks and playgrounds cared for; rivers cleaned or canals restored.

Everywhere in Britain there are useful and cheerful things to be done. Let us find them, promise them - and then do them.

That is especially true of unemployment, the most important issue today. Broadly speaking the British people regard mass unemployment as a natural disaster, beyond the control of government; a punishment, perhaps, for national sins such as living beyond our means and not working hard enough. This is meat and drink to Mrs Thatcher: no leader has been so well qualified - or done so much - to benefit from the national masochism.

The state of the NHS is Labour's only consistently successful big issue because people believe it to be directly controlled by the government, which alone can improve it. But the NHS in itself is not enough to form a campaign for the Labour Party.

If other big issues are of no political use to us, we should make a New Year resolution to start thinking small. We should concentrate on how the meanness of Mrs Thatcher's policies as affected everyday life: schools with holes in the roof and no inside lavatories; schoolchildren who do not get swimming or music lessons; old people losing outings or being given cheaper, nastier meals; buses which do not run; streets badly lit and swept, or left derelict; parks and public property neglected and vandalized; rivers and canals clogged with filth. All over the country dredged and

The author is political adviser to Gerald Kaufman, MP, Opposition spokesman on home affairs.

# Bailey Morris on the implications of the multi-billion squeeze

Washington  
In a maximum security area of the Pentagon, the US Joint Chiefs of Staff are planning the unthinkable: the abrupt "build-down" of the cherished military "build-up" which has been the top priority of Ronald Reagan's administration.

Against their will, with the reluctant acquiescence of the president, the military chiefs are attempting to put on paper the amount and kind of programmes which will have to be cut as a result of the deficit-reduction legislation endorsed by Reagan and passed by Congress on December 11.

It is a chaotic task. Belatedly, officials are beginning to realize the consequences. By the end of his second term, Reagan may have to preside over the largest dismantling of US military power since the end of the Korean war in the early 1950s. On a chart, this sharp reversal of policy would look like a pyramid: one line shooting upward, representing the biggest defence build-up in American peacetime history, followed by a line shooting downward, representing - by 1991 - the third largest reduction in history, exceeded only by the post-Korea and second World War periods.

Under the inflexible formula of the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings legislation, whole divisions could be disbanded; important weapons systems delayed or cancelled; more than 50,000 of the 300,000 US troops defending Europe recalled; the M-1 tank programme, a priority for the administration, stripped to a bare minimum; funding of peacekeeping forces in Lebanon and Cyprus eliminated; the Navy's ambitious plan to modernize 26 ships during the coming financial year cut to 12 or even fewer.

What this means to the world at large, and to the United States specifically, is an issue now under the microscope. In the 1986 fiscal year, when only an estimated \$5.5 billion must be subtracted from the Pentagon's budget, the issue is not very grave. But in the 1987 fiscal year, when the figure could be more than \$25 billion (£17.6 billion) out of a total of \$277.5 billion, the cuts become draconian.

This partial unilateral disarmament, just as Reagan has entered the second stage of his summit talks with the Soviet leader, Mikhail Gorbachev - seriously weakening his negotiating position, in the opinion of senior administration officials. Caspar Weinberger, the embattled Defence Secretary, perhaps put it best when he described the December 11 legislation as "a message of comfort to the Soviet Union."

By the summer, when Gorbachev is tentatively scheduled to make his first visit to the United States, administration and congressional budget officials will be deeply immersed in the divisive task of slashing domestic and defence programmes by a total estimated at more than \$50 billion.

Even congressional critics of the five-year \$1,000 billion US military build-up are astonished by the implications of the cuts required under the legislation. "This bill



US armoured might in Germany: some divisions would be cut, others totally disbanded

# Can Reagan live with this arms U-turn?

could achieve by legislative fiat what the Soviets failed to achieve at Geneva," said a top Republican aide on the Senate armed services committee. "That is, to halt any real progress on the Strategic Defence Initiative" (the so-called Star Wars project).

Les Aspin, the Democratic chairman of the House of Representatives armed services committee, said in an interview: "If this legislation goes into effect as written, it is going to be very, very dangerous, a serious threat to the national security."

How did this happen to a president, elected in part because of his promise to stand up to Soviet military pressure by launching a defence build-up to close once and for all a dangerous "window of vulnerability"?

"Only if the Soviets recognize the West's determination to modernize its own military forces will they see an incentive to negotiate a verifiable agreement establishing equal, lower levels of nuclear arms," Reagan had said. "Very simply, that is one of the main reasons we must rebuild our defence strength."

Yet he signed the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings legislation into law on December 12, over the strong objections of Weinberger and of James Baker, the Treasury Secretary, who served formerly as White House Chief of Staff, and other trusted advisers.

It happened, in the opinion of Aspin, senior Republicans and disgruntled Pentagon officials, because the White House bought a concept - deficit reduction - without

reading the fine print. Under the procedures established by the legislation, if Congress and the administration cannot agree on overall cuts that would reduce the deficit to \$144 billion in the 1987 fiscal year, a computer will take over.

It would preside over an orgy of programme slashing that would result in a systematic reduction of US military power. At worst this would mean not the 3 per cent growth requested by the administration but a 3 per cent cut in fiscal 1986 and up to 10 per cent in 1987.

Fod with data prepared by the non-partisan congressional budget office and the president's office of management and budget, a computer will slash, across-the-board and without exception, defence programmes and unexpended domestic programmes from October.

In the current fiscal year, when the Pentagon has to make cuts totalling \$5.5 billion by March, it can decide for itself where the axe should fall. In 1987 it will have no such flexibility; cuts will be made equally in every programme - manpower, weapon systems, ships, bases and military aid to other nations. There are no rights of appeal, no way to trade off one programme in favour of another.

Since some of the largest domestic programmes are exempted - social welfare, a portion of Medicare - the cuts will fall disproportionately hard on defence and the remaining domestic programmes - prisons, air traffic control, the FBI, drug enforcement, transport and so on.

"This is a ludicrous way to run

the government. It is not a rational process. You lose the ability to choose. You may have to sacrifice readiness. The computer is not going to answer the question of who will defend Europe if US troops pull out," said Robert Komer, a defence analyst for the Rand Corporation.

It is not inconceivable that the Nato allies could be asked for as much as \$10 billion (£7.4 billion) each per year to compensate. One immediate casualty of a US troop pullback would be the recent agreement, engineered by Britain and West Germany, on mutual and balanced force reductions in Europe. Under a proposal approved on December 5, the United States and the Soviet Union agreed to modest, symbolic reductions - 5,000 and 11,000 troops, respectively.

European officials also fear that dramatic reductions in the American defence position will make it almost impossible to extract concessions from the Soviet Union in the Geneva arms negotiations.

Indeed, the potential consequences of the legislation are so disastrous that few people believe it will be implemented. It has already been challenged on constitutional grounds in a federal lawsuit filed by Mike Synar, a House Democrat.

Senate Republicans, who strongly supported the legislation, believe it will at long last force Reagan to agree to a tax increase, perhaps in the form of a tax on petrol, rather than accept the cuts.

Others predict that, by next summer, when the tough fiscal choices must be made, the president will stage a highly theatrical event, perhaps a "summit" with congressional leaders, to ask that the legislation be waived in the interests of national security. This would give all parties a face-saving way out of a chaotic situation in an important mid-term election year.

But Les Aspin doubts if there will be a tidy solution. "This legislation was underwritten from the beginning. Nobody, including the White House, believed it would pass. But it still keeps going forward and we do not know what it means."

# Curb the banks, save the forests

More than 27 million acres of tropical forests are disappearing every year, almost an acre a second, according to the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization. Although the forests that remain cover only 2 per cent of the globe, they are the habitat of half of all surviving species of living things. Forty per cent of all our medicines originate in these forests. Their future value to science, plant-breeding and animal husbandry is incalculable.

Members of Parliament are at last beginning to recognize the importance of the issue. Some 60 have responded positively to rain-forest lobbying. Because of Britain's complicity in the destruction, and in view of the growing inter-party rivalry for the "green" vote, rain-forests could be an electoral issue by 1987.

But Westminster looks complacent when compared with the active interest being shown in the US Congress. (Admittedly the Americans have more to answer for than we do, since the multinationals, often US-owned, usually ride on the backs of the spoilation projects.)

No fewer than five congressional committees have been investigating. Their main concern has been the role of the multilateral development banks, especially the World Bank, in using public money (or money borrowed on world markets on the strength of public "collateral") to

finance rain-forest destruction - which, by increasing carbon dioxide levels, may even damage the world's climate.

The House of Representatives banking sub-committee called on the World Bank in December 1984 at least to assign a full-time environmental staff member to each of its six regional offices by June 1985. The World Bank refuses to do so. The reason given is that it prefers to hire consultants on a project-by-project basis.

Conservationists challenge this. They maintain that the World Bank is deliberately cutting off its investment planning process from environmental considerations by having almost no staff who specialize in the subject, so as to minimize conflict with its overriding aim of "development".

The US Treasury has supported the environmentalists in Congress. It has appointed its own specialist staff to remind the multilateral banks of their environmental shortcomings. It reported to the Senate that the problem was the banks' overemphasis on quantity, rather than quality of lending: "If environmental considerations threaten expeditious project processing, the environment is assigned low priority and is left to deal with later."

A grim example is the Polonoroeste scheme in western Brazil. The World Bank committed \$443 million for the paving of a highway,

BR 64, through 900 miles of Amazonian rain-forest and for helping an influx of settlers there to clear and then cultivate the newly despoiled land.

This despite the fact that, according to the British ecologist Nicholas Guppy, only 2 per cent of Amazonia's soils are permanently cultivable. It follows that the whole scheme, and others like it, are not only a waste of environmental resources, but a waste of money.

As in Brazil, so in Indonesia. There the World Bank, the EEC's European Development Fund and other international agencies are helping to finance the migration of millions of landless peasants from Java and other fertile central islands to the infertile but rain-forest-covered outer islands at a cost of \$9,000 per family. Nicholas Guppy estimates that 2 per cent of the soil of Indonesian Borneo, on which one million people are being settled, to be permanently cultivable.

Friends of the Earth are concentrating their campaign on the question on Britain's contribution to the clearance: the timber trade. They have already won agreement in principle from the Timber Trade Federation to a new code of conduct. This requires tropical hardwood imports to come from "sustainably managed forests or plantations".

The British government should now act. At a "green lunch" with

environmentalists in Downing Street last November, Mrs Thatcher asked for clear prescriptions for action on forest issues. Here is a package for her:

● Invite the Commons environment select committee to investigate. If it consents, it should be requested to cross-examine, among others, the UK executive director of the World Bank, Tim Lankester.

● Stipulate that within two years the World Bank must set up an environmental monitoring department containing not five people but the 50 or more needed to analyse its current 1,600 projects in any depth. Other multilateral banks must follow suit.

● Insist that the banks cease funding roadbuilding and migration projects in tropical rain-forests. The money saved could be spent on more lasting and less environmentally damaging development elsewhere.

● If the banks reject the stipulations, Britain should deduct from funds earmarked for them enough money to enable us to carry out detailed environmental scrutiny of all projects ourselves, preferably through non-governmental organizations like the World Wildlife Fund. US Treasury collaboration would be welcome.

Tony Paterson  
The author is the Bow Group's research secretary.

# THE TIMES DIARY

## Reluctant lensman

Aberfan doesn't know it, but it was paid a surreptitious visit by Lord Snowdon shortly before Christmas. He went early one morning, took a bare minimum of photographs of the town that was hit by a coal-tip avalanche in 1966, and slipped away again. The photographs are for a book called *My Wales* by his friend Lord Tompandy, the former Speaker, George Thomas, with whom he is collaborating. He tells me he made the trip to Aberfan with great reluctance. It was the first time he had returned there since the disaster - the night of which he spent consoling bereaved parents, apart from the emotional strain he feared his photography might be resented as an intrusion. Tompandy, though, was Welsh Minister at the time of the disaster. "However much it lingers in my mind, it's part of George Thomas's Wales and I thought it would have been wrong to have left it out," says Snowdon.

## Pass the bucks

The recent visit to America of the Prince and Princess of Wales has left the British embassy in Washington financially embarrassed, and Fleet Street's royal hacks are being asked to help out. Yesterday a number of them received the following letter from the embassy's first secretary, E. H. Hughes: "During the royal visit to Washington you used the press buses and paid for them at the time (100 dollars). I am sorry to bring unseasonal greetings but I am afraid that with overrunning the cost of the buses was considerably higher than we anticipated. I must ask you to pay a further £75, or 112 dollars." The response of one hack yesterday: Forget it.

● The City must have eeked over the big advertisement on page 3 of yesterday's strife-torn *Daily Telegraph* advertising a Telegraph Publications book entitled *Sunday Telegraph, 101 Ways to Run a Business Profitably*.

## Second-rater

John Sparrow, former warden of All Souls, will be sorry to learn from the newly-released 1955 Cabinet papers that he was not first choice to chair a proposed committee of inquiry on coloured immigration. He will be even more distressed at the reason why the man who was first thought of, the judge Lord Radcliffe, was passed over. Sir Norman Brook, the starchy Cabinet secretary, sent a memo suggesting Lord Radcliffe "should be reserved for subjects which are more complex or difficult intellectually."

## Howzat?

Lady Howe, wife of Sir Geoffrey, must have been a good student at the London School of Economics. Having graduated last summer with a lower second, she has just been made a governor, along with such luminaries as Saatchi and Saatchi's Maurice Saatchi, former LSE head Ralf Dahrendorf, Labour MP Frank Dobson and the Municipal Workers' John Edmonds. Although "book" is usually delighted by the bubbly Lady H could not have been entirely surprised: "A letter putting my name forward (to be a governor) crossed with my application to be a student three years ago. We all decided it was best if I wait."

BARRY FANTONI



It's new: a cross between Diplomacy, Monopoly and Trivial Pursuit!

## Leverage

Even the humble "self-employed" can get into the Garrick Club these days, as the speedy admission of one member shows. The new boy was perhaps able to barge to the head of the two-year queue because he was proposed by the Duke of Edinburgh and seconded by Donald Sinden. His name: Prince Charles.

## Dear diary

The *Observer*, it seems, disposed too hastily of its copy of Narendra Sethia's diary after publishing his account of the Belgrano sinking. The former officer of the submarine *Conqueror* is now suing *The Observer* for libel and for breach of copyright in publishing the extract in 1984. Just before Christmas, I learn, *The Observer's* lawyers applied to the High Court for an order that Sethia's solicitor, Philip Lucas, produce another copy of the diary for use in the action. The hearing was adjourned. Lucas cannot see what relevance the diary has to the case, and has obtained a letter from the Ministry of Defence saying the diary is classified and that the Defence Secretary, Michael Heseltine, would take the necessary action to prevent *The Observer* receiving a copy.

PHS

Handwritten Arabic text at the bottom left of the page.





P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

WHY WAIT THIRTY YEARS?

Early in 1955 Sir Winston Churchill's Cabinet received the report of the Grigg committee on public records recommending that the archives be opened to general view after 50 years elapsed.

MISSION TO MADRID

Lord Carrington has begun 24 hours of talks in Madrid which he is visiting for the first time since becoming Secretary-General of Nato 18 months ago.

Oval imprint

With reference to Mr Rigby's letter (December 24), if the Sovereign's image is to be updated, I do see why this should be another issue. Silhouettes are rather tract and nondescript.

ence and perhaps sympathize as they attempted to pay for a first-class world role with the resources of a second-rank economy.

The first concerned non-white immigration. Churchill and Salisbury might have become a little hysterical, but their colleagues were clear-headed.

minimize friction over housing. In 1955, and for years to come, governments chose to do neither.

It is certainly true that Bloomsbury Health Authority is operating under the most severe financial pressure.

The conditions which need to be satisfied at present before a medical practitioner can take effective steps to help a person suffering from a serious schizophrenic breakdown are quite unrealistic.

trading the bases now, he can win support for his Nato referendum, and the Pentagon clearly respects his political judgement.

Spain's armed forces are already undergoing a series of slimming and strengthening exercises which is good news for Nato as well as themselves.

and were always behind that curious blend of bunting and nobility which distinguished the finest British examples.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

How health authority copes with cuts

From the Chairman of the Bloomsbury Health Authority Sir, Dr Soubami's account (December 30) of the revenue-saving measures adopted by Bloomsbury Health Authority is factually correct.

The forgotten disease

From Professor Ernest Gellner, FBA Sir, Your series of articles on this tragic subject (December 16-18) will find its way as good life, apart from underpinning the hollow slogan of "return to the community".

Aids for shareholders

From Mr L. G. Beaver Sir, City of London activities are much in the limelight these days. There is one aspect which may be worth mentioning.

Sleepers awake From the Reverend Kevin M. Pelham Sir, Your correspondent, Professor Ian Fells (December 28) is undoubtedly correct.

Fit to print

From Mr R. L. S. Coulson Sir, Of the four books I received this Christmas, two were printed in Hoog Kong, one in Czechoslovakia and one in India.

Union's boycott of MP's letters

From Mr Ken Terry Sir, No doubt readers were somewhat perplexed by Colin Moynihan's letter (December 30) as it completely failed to mention why he is in dispute with the Lewisbam branch of Nalgo.

Drive to monopoly

From the Chairman of Watts Blake Beane & Co, Plc Sir, I write to express sympathy with the observations made by Esmond Buller, MP (December 16).

Terms of endearment

From Commander W. R. Miller Sir, Recent correspondence in your columns about vegetarian feasts prompts me to pose a question which has long troubled me.

Which chestnut?

From the Director of the Henry Doubleday Research Association Sir, We are planting a tree museum of all the species valued for their special qualities by the craftsmen of England.

ON THIS DAY

JANUARY 3 1969

For over two years in Cuba, Fidel Castro waged a guerrilla war against Fulgencio Batista the country's president/dictator.

HAVANA GREETED FIRST REBEL TROOPS

HAVANA, JAN 2 Dr. Manuel Urrutia, who was proclaimed provisional revolutionary President of Cuba at one o'clock this morning in Santiago de Cuba, was reported this afternoon to be heading for Havana accompanied by Raul Castro, one of Fidel Castro's brothers, and a column of 1,000 men.

WORK AT STANDSTILL Here in the Cuban capital, the city awoke to virtual paralysis today: all private and Government offices were closed; so were stores, shops, bars, and restaurants.

WITHOUT TRANSPORT Rebel militiamen are continuing mopping-up operations in the city in an effort to neutralize aggressive pro-Batista elements who are causing occasional trouble.

PROVISIONAL CAPITAL In naming Dr. Urrutia provisional President early today, Dr. Fidel Castro also proclaimed Santiago as the provisional capital of Cuba.

Born to blush unseen

From the Reverend John Ticehurst Sir, A hundred years ago the General Register Office included at the front of marriage registers an alphabetical list of common English and Welsh names so that the spelling could be got right for a change.

Among the list for common girls' names are included the following: Adeiza, Ailsie, Alberta, Albina, Amabel, Aspasia, Avico, Bodeicia, Charibel, Cleopatra, Clotilda, Dagmar, Decima, Egliva, Elichiada, Euphrosyne, Gundreda, Hope, Hortensia, Hyrann, Hoshappuch, Keurach, Keziach, Lesbia, Lemce, Lucretia, Medora, Metia, Minna, Mirella, Oenone, Osyth, Panya, Pomona, Rachel, Rebecca, Sophronia, Sydney, Theodosia, Toby, Tryphenia, Urania, Victoria, Yeta, Zaneta, Zelypha.

Far festive fare

From Mrs Pamela Colman Sir, With reference to our man in Mongolia's Christmas pud (Spectrum, December 23), I today despatched from deepest Wiltshire into the care of my young Taiwanese guest a farmhouse Cheddar cheese, which can last longer than oak making furniture, and the roofs of many medieval buildings, including Westminster Hall?



THE ARTS

Cinema: David Robison greets an auspicious British start to 1986, and (below) John Preston meets the film's director

Gripping thriller of menacing contemporaneity

Gabriel Byrne (left), giving a star performance as the hero, and Denholm Elliott on home ground in Defence of the Realm



Defence of the Realm (PG) Odeon Haymarket

Fire Festival ICA

Best Defence (15) Plaza

With Defence of the Realm the British cinema makes an auspicious entry into 1986. As a political thriller of contemporary reference, it is something quite new for the national cinema...

owed much of its success to the way it reflected the aggressive optimism and competitive spirit of the early period of the Thatcher administration...

managed suspense sequences, admirable performances (most notably by Denholm Elliott) as the Fleet Street dinosaur who still believes in truth and atmospheric photography by Roger Deakins...

Behind the town rise the thickly forested foothills of a range of mountains. There is a sharp social division between the fisherfolk and the forest people who work the timber industry...

Practically every week nowadays produces a film that the critic believes must be the worst ever; but next week there is usually another, Best Defence, though, must surely and finally have struck rock-bottom...

I was so hungry to make cinema that I wasn't going to let anything stand in my way

The political thriller is a rare animal in the British cinema. Freedom spotted said then usually found to be without much in the way of teeth...

break into drama with Ray Connolly's script. Forever Young for the Putnam-produced First Love series on Channel 4...

Although Drury had been achieving to get out of documentaries and into drama for some time, he found his early training invaluable when he finally made the switch...

possible world they're only going to be 50 per cent against you. It was Drury's documentary on the inner workings of Manchester City for Granada that first brought him to Putnam's attention...

against Crystal Palace, who had just snapped up Allison. Drury followed up City with another documentary for Granada about Alan Minter's successful attempt to wrest the world middleweight crown from Vito Antuofermo in Las Vegas...



Drury: "Now I want the whole train set"

Oldham, which used to feature regularly on the list of most deprived towns in England and Wales, enjoyed a different claim to fame earlier this year when it was host to the Duke Ellington Convention (Duke Ellington - Love You Madly, Granada)...

SWRB Sadler's Wells The programme chosen to open Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet's appearance in its home theatre on New Year's Eve was so seasonable that two of the three works ended in a flurry of snow...

Advertisement for the film 'NINETEEN NINETEEN' at the Curzon Mayfair. It features a list of cast members including Paul Scofield, Maria Schell, Frank Finlay, Diana Quick, and Colin Firth.

end one was left with a marvellous sense of well-being. Private Enterprise (Channel 4), from the Comic Strip stable, took an old chestnut - the British rock industry and how to swindle it - mixed in some familiar elements (a Boy George double and a con-man) and yet manages to produce something fresh and engaging...

Dance part. As he proved in a television programme a year or so ago, when he made the dramatic solo in Petruska's cell work perfectly to a staccato without benefit of scenery - and analyzed how he achieved it - he has an understanding of the role that goes right to the heart of the matter...

Nobody else whom I have seen in this ballet (not even Massine, Nureyev or Golovine, the three strongest contenders) has made so much sense of it. Binyav's Petruska, like Nureyev's Spectre de la rose, uniquely has made me understand the excitement that those ballets were new, 75 years ago...

had much to do with its success. This could be one of the finest programmes of the year. Temques of Fire (Channel 4) concluded with Craig Raine. In the discussion on poetry and religion, he seasoned his speech with what seemed like an abnormal number of colloquialisms as he strove to give the impression he was just like the rest of us...

supported by the playing all through the ensembles. Ashton's Les Patineurs began the evening, its dancing jokes about skaters showing the benefit of polished rehearsal. Lili Grifiths and Karen Donovan shone brightest as the two whirling girls in blue (Dooovon was featured prominently and admirably in the other two ballets also), and Russell Maliphant's soaring jumps made him stand out in the supporting group...

The other leading roles were also admirably done. Carl Myers has much developed his playing of the Moor into a performance of clumsy power, and Margaret Barberi gives the ballerina doll a degree of detail and conviction that only real ballerinas can achieve in the role, small and artificial though it is. They were excellently

Concerts

Renaissance giggles

Consort of Musicke/Rooley Wigmore Hall

This was the second successive New Year's Eve I had spent in the Wigmore Hall. The experience has its compensations. Ooc is spared the Rabelaisian heights of self-expression found in Trafalgar Square, and the community singing of Scottish ballads is definitely off the menu...

In fact the programme devised by Anthony Rooley for the six singers and six string players of the Consort of Musicke was a strictly Anglo-Italian affair, being devoted to Grazio Vecchi and Thomas Ravenscroft the two funny men of late Renaissance choral music...

out of tune for comic effect (even when asked to imitate a violin), but the interjections abounded in sly glissandi. Vecchi is more serious mood, as in the vocal pieces or the four choral depictions of the "Musical Humours", was a far more commonplace composer. But one could relish the charming L'anno nuovo, crisply written for high voices in tuneful homophony and expressing the topical hope that the new year brings "great honours and royal favours"...

Richard Morrison

Endymion Ensemble Wigmore Hall

It was no great service to Sir Michael Tippett to place his worthy Sonata for Four Horns of 1955 alongside two substantial works by Mozart. The experience was not unlike interrupting a tasting of two great vintages with a rather flat glass of tonic water. The Sonata, despite its intricate part-writing and a finale in which cross-rhythms abound, emerges as a neat essay - but as a pleasurable piece of music it was for me a non-starter. The performance by the skilled quartet of players from the ensemble was admirably suave, with saliva, that omnipresent enemy of the hornist, never being allowed to gum up any passage...

Mozart's Divertimento in D, K11, had opened the evening and was physically dominated by Miss Chi-chi Nwanoku and her double bass. Seated on a pedestal at the centre of the ensemble, her obvious delight in the music and in the company of her favoured companions contributed to allow the music to come over with a vibrant charm. Each performer had some-

thing to say, and, although stylistic observance was present, the reading was entirely unfiltered by academic pedantry. The appearance of the horn quartet in the two minute movements can sound elephantine; here there was a peculiar feeling of forceful paths. The best wine was reserved until last. The Mozart Clarinet Quintet is an unassailable masterpiece. However, to attain a level of performance greater than mere success, it is necessary to have both a string quartet and a soloist of exceptional quality. Although the string group sounded fine within the larger ensemble in the Divertimento, they were a little exposed here and did not quite match Mark van der Wiel's highly accurate, though rather uncoloured, approach. The first violinist broke up some of the phrases with a clumsy legato, and the violist should have played out more in the Menuetto. Beauty of tone may be a prerequisite for expressivity, but the one does not necessarily lead to the other without the initial artistic vision.

James Methuen-Campbell

Advertisement for 'The Lion and the Witch and the Wardrobe' by C.S. Lewis. It features a large illustration of the four children and the wardrobe. Text includes 'WESTMINSTER PRODUCTIONS', 'GLORIOUSLY THRILL-PACKED FANTASY ADVENTURE, SUPERBLY ADAPTED', and 'WESTMINSTER THEATRE'.

Advertisement for 'The Mastersingers of Nuremberg' at the English National Opera. It lists the cast including Norman Bailey, Alan Opie, Kathryn Harries, Kenneth Woollam, Anne-Marie Owens, and Sean Rea. It also mentions the conductor Peter Robinson and the production by David Rich.

Advertisement for the National Theatre. It lists various productions including 'The Duchess of Malfi' by John Webster, 'Philip Prowse's BRILLIANT production', and 'TRULY BRILLIANT piece of work'. It also provides information about ticket prices and showtimes.

Advertisement for 'Fire Festival' at the ICA Cinema. It features a large illustration of a fire and the text 'FIRE FESTIVAL AT THE ICA CINEMA FROM JANUARY 3RD'.

Advertisement for 'Laser Magic' at the Brighton Watermans Arts Centre. It features a large illustration of a laser beam and the text 'LASER MAGIC Food & Drink available from 6.30pm'.

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Shares rise in quiet trade

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Dec 23, Dealings End, Jan 10, Contango Day, Jan 13, Settlement Day, Jan 20. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

THE TIMES Portfolio

From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card.

Table with 5 columns: No., Company, Price, Chg, % P/E. Lists various companies like Micro Focus, Rascal Films, IFE, First Circle Etc, GEC, etc.

Table titled 'Weekly Dividend' with columns for days of the week (MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI, SAT, SUN) and a 'Total' column.

BRITISH FUNDS

Large table listing various British funds with columns for High/Low, Company, Price, Chg, % P/E. Includes sections for 'SHORTS (Under Five Years)', 'FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS', 'OVER FIFTEEN YEARS', 'SEMIATED', 'INDEX-LINKED', 'BREWERIES', 'BANKS DISCOUNT HP', and 'ELECTRICALS'.

Table with 5 columns: High/Low, Company, Price, Chg, % P/E. Lists companies like Brown Shipley, Anglo Saxon, etc.

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INDUSTRIALS L-R

Table with 5 columns: High/Low, Company, Price, Chg, % P/E. Lists companies like Anglo Saxon, Anglo Saxon, etc.

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INDUSTRIALS A-D

Large table with 5 columns: High/Low, Company, Price, Chg, % P/E. Lists companies like Anglo Saxon, Anglo Saxon, etc.

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E-K

Large table with 5 columns: High/Low, Company, Price, Chg, % P/E. Lists companies like Anglo Saxon, Anglo Saxon, etc.

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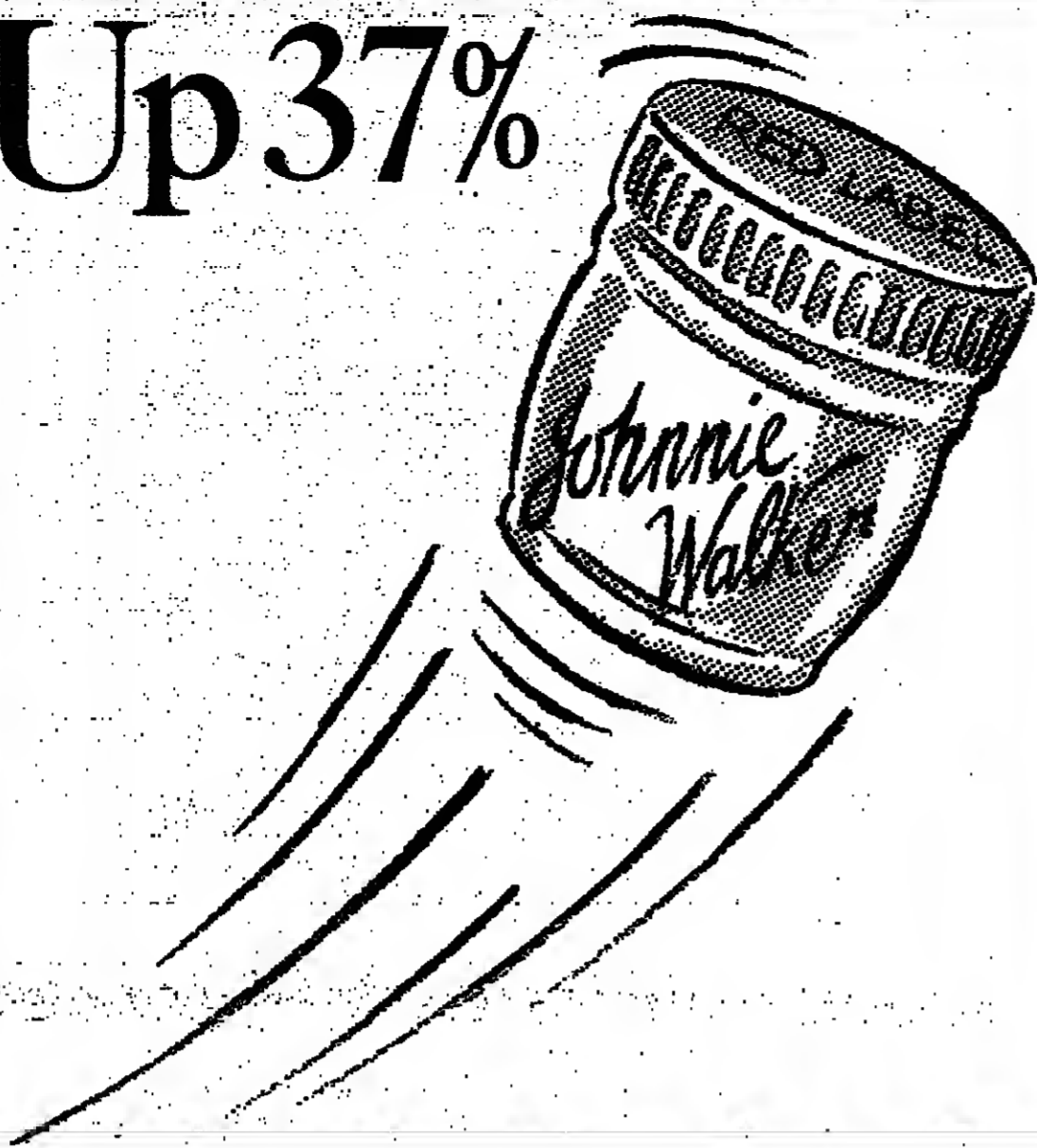
Vertical advertisement on the right edge of the page, including 'McMahon' and 'Bever' logos and text.

Handwritten Arabic text at the bottom left corner.

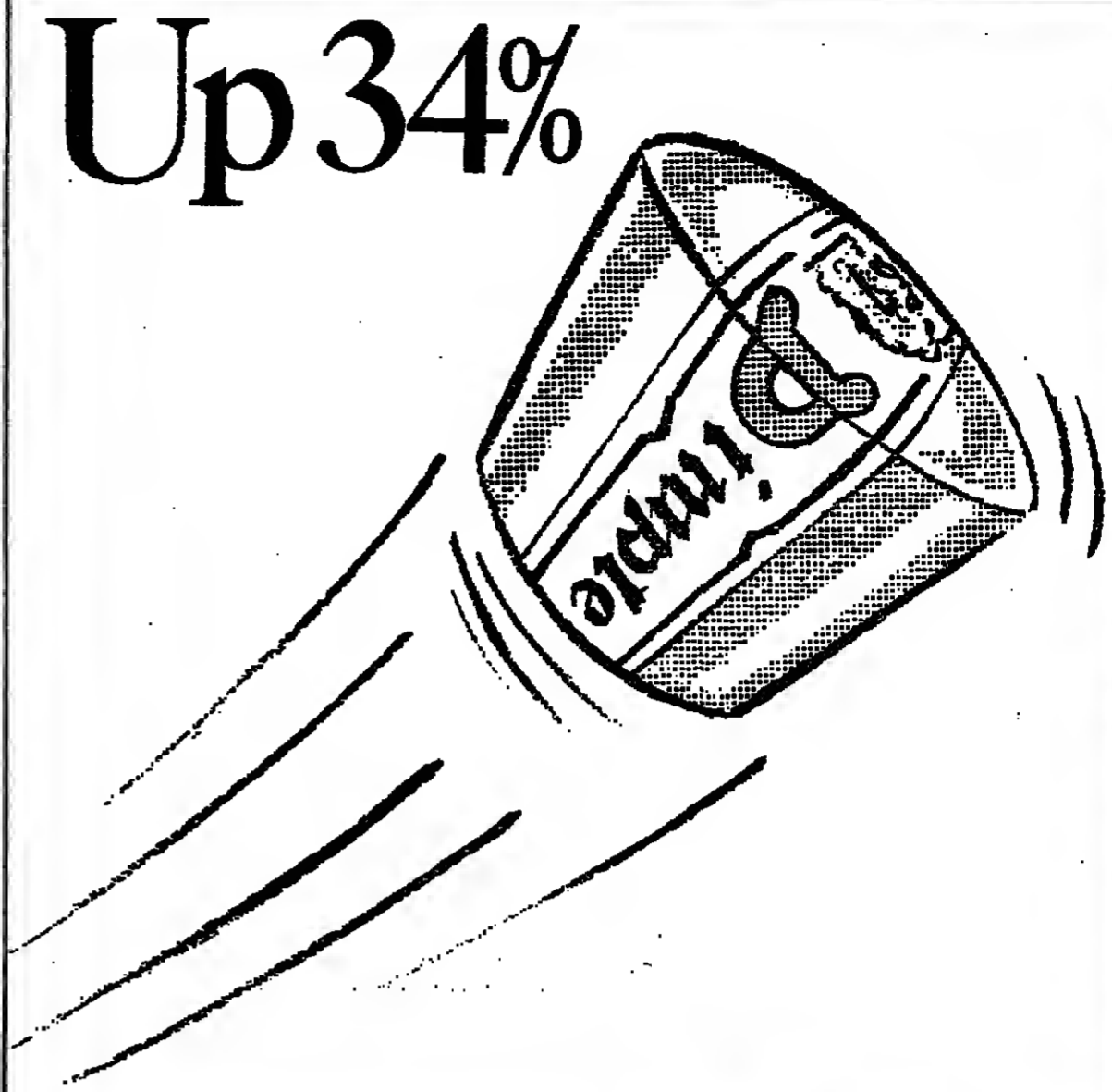




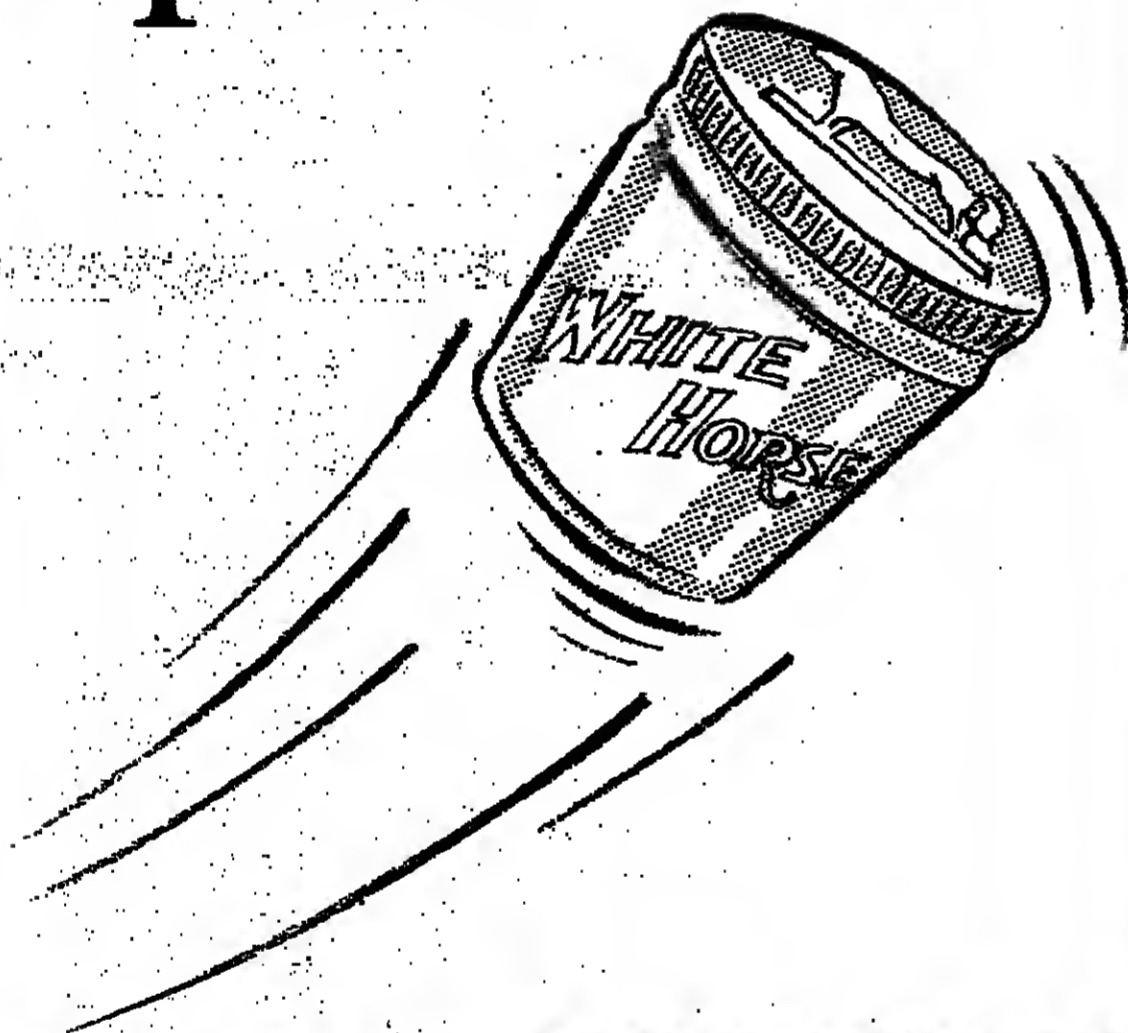
Up 37%



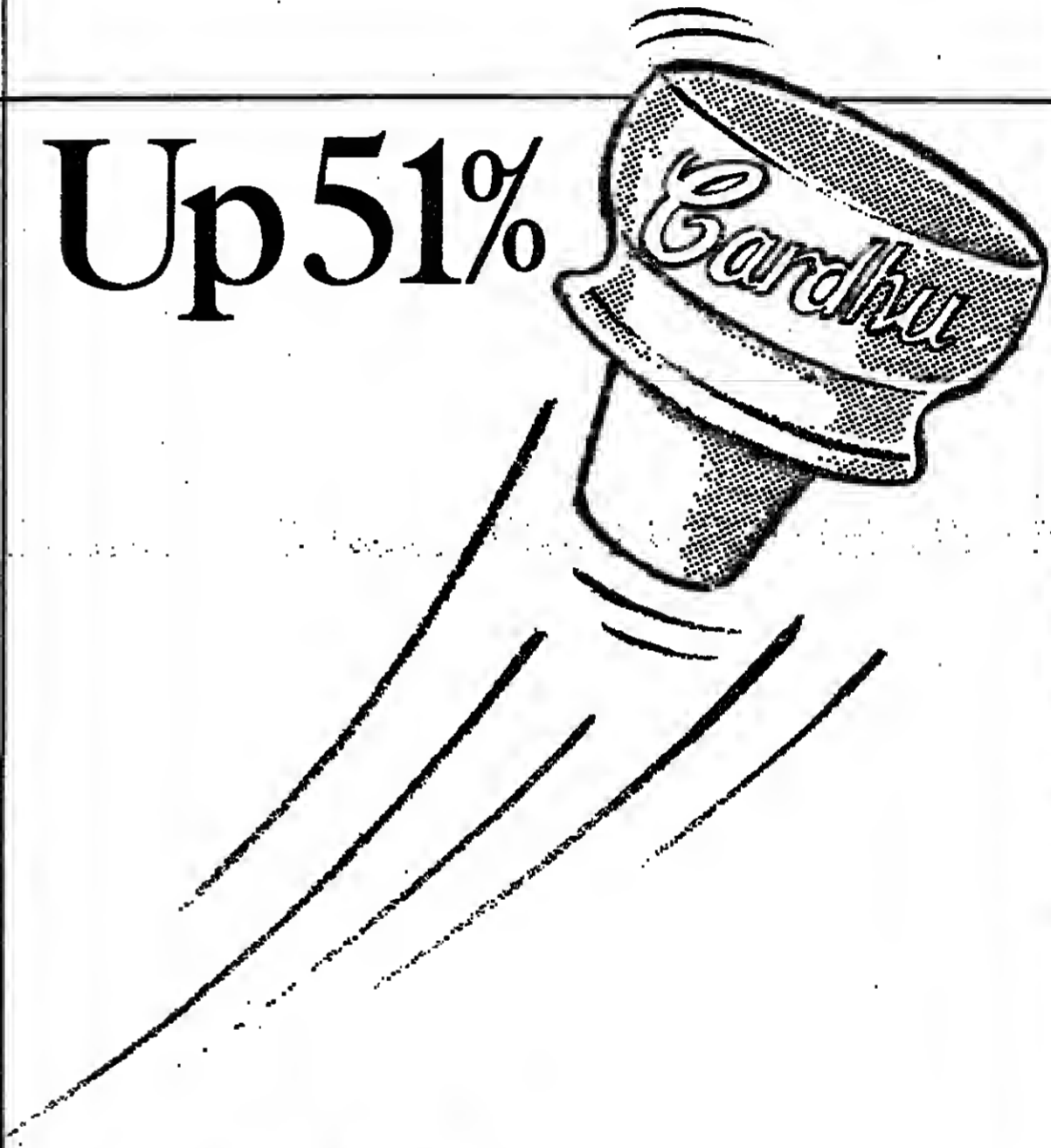
Up 34%



Up 23%



Up 51%



Source: DCL Home Trade Case Sales statistics April-September 1985 compared to same period previous year.

This should scotch  
the story  
you're spreading, Argyll.

The Distillers Company plc.

This advertisement is published by The Distillers Company plc, whose directors (including those who have delegated detailed supervision of this advertisement) have taken all reasonable care to ensure that the facts stated and opinions expressed herein are fair and accurate. Each of the directors accepts responsibility accordingly.





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GOLF

Crenshaw in search of his lost mastery

Ben Crenshaw begins the New Year in the Bahamas Classic starting on the Paradise Island course today hoping to rescue a career which turned sour from the moment he captured the US Masters 20 months ago.

BOXING

Only Coetzee in the way of world title bout for Bruno

By Sri Kumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent
Frank Bruno is one contest away from a world heavyweight title bout. He has been matched with Gerrie Coetzee, of South Africa. The World Boxing Association No 1 at Wembley on March 4.

ATHLETICS

AAA move will give more power to clubs

The amateur athletic association (AAA) plan to give their member clubs more say in the running of the sport at national level. Four proposals have been circulated to clubs for discussion and once a consensus of opinion is established, the AAA plan to put this before a general meeting to vote on the restructuring of the general committee.

ILEA blundering by moving away from team games

Paul Theroux, the American novelist, wrote in his essay on Being a Man (1984) that "the quest for manliness is essentially right wing, puritanical, cowardly, neurotic and largely fuelled by a fear of women. It is also certainly philistine".

David Miller Sports Commentary

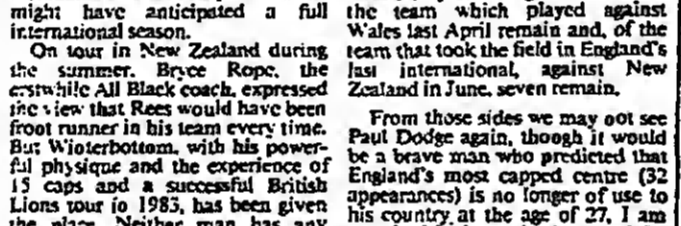
extending, especially within ILEA since the retirement several years ago of Peter McIntosh, chairman of physical education. Athletics and swimming are now elitist because they produce winners and losers; cricket and football are sexist unless played by mixed teams; rugby and soccer are undesirable because they are competitive. This is the lousy view of an ideology which finds itself obliged to oppose competitive sport because it is the reverse of egalitarianism.

egalitarian theory cannot change life

The difficulty for the Minister for Sport is that he is a junior minister in the Department of Education and Science. Peter Lawson, general secretary of the CCP, would like to see the formation of an umbrella committee between the two ministries, which a meeting with Neil Macfarlane, the former Minister of Sport, failed to achieve. It is with such local authorities' should emulate Birmingham and Leicester and utilise fallow school facilities after 4pm.

Mars-suited men to renew battle

By Robert Pryce
The sport of the space age throws up a game between two throwbacks to the past.



Putting on the style: Bruno in London yesterday

American Football

Mars-suited men to renew battle

Chicago won the first NFL championship in 1931, when they were known as the Decatur Staleys. The Bears then moved to Chicago six years later. Chicago beat New York 14-10 in the championship final of 1963, which is almost the last time either team enjoyed any play-off success.

RUGBY UNION: WALES FACE PROBLEMS IN REBUILDING. ENGLAND HAVE SOLID STRUCTURE

Welsh dreams must stay close to earth

By Gerald Davies
The six long years that have passed without a sign of Wales winning the Triple Crown or five Nations championship underline the country's failure to come to terms with the period of transition which followed their golden age.

Championship proves its worth

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent
The value of the Thorn EMI divisional championship was enhanced by the announcement on Wednesday of England's team to play Wales on January 18.

Finn could get the nod for place on wing

By George Ace
The Ireland team that defeated England of Lansdowne Road last year to seize both the triple and the All Ireland Championship, would have been chosen to play the opening international match against France in Paris on February 1.

Courageous Champion try the Australians

By Michael Stevenson
The brief but fierce frezz represented a set-back to representative school's rugby but a successful tour of Cambodia and Yunnan in the month of January in Limerick (10-6) and beat Leicester (6-3) in Belfast. Munster, who beat Leinster (16-12) in Dublin, will be the inter-provincial champion.

Ambitious plan to extend game all over the country

By Keith Mackinnon
A network of junior teams. They will need to secure sound financial status, proper administrative and public relations staff, a ground with facilities up to professional standards, and a club house and social facilities.

South African thrown in at deep end

By Raymond Mitchell
Ray Mordt, the South African wing, is getting a hard baptism of rugby league as he turns out for Wigan against Swinton on Sunday. Mordt has been sent to South Africa yesterday with his colleague, Rob Low, the forward (Keith Mackinnon writes).

Hockey

Ferns can thrive in desert

By Sydney Friskin
Great Britain will probably find a little strange today when they begin their quadrangular tournament in Dubai on a grass pitch having achieved so many successes in recent months on artificial turf.

Olympics main objective

By Joyce Whitehead
At a special meeting of players, managers and officials in Liverpool after the women's territorial championship, general agreement was reached in the principle of participating in the Olympic Games.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Table with columns for Football, Basketball, and Other Sports. Includes fixtures for Chelsea v Liverpool, Arsenal v Everton, etc.

Today's fixtures

Table with columns for Football, Basketball, and Other Sports. Includes fixtures for Colchester v Haverford, etc.

Vertical advertisement on the far right edge of the page, partially cut off. Includes text like 'Australia word of' and 'Moderate for for'.

CRICKET

Zimbabwe and Bangladesh may risk expulsion from membership of ICC

By John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent

"Where will it all end?" cricketers were asking themselves last night after the England B tour to Bangladesh had been cancelled following a statement from the Bangladesh Government...

Tour to W Indies 'not in jeopardy'

By Richard Streeton

Steve Casmacho, the West Indies Cricket Board of Control secretary, told The Times from Kingston, Jamaica last night that he did not expect the Bangladesh Government's attitude towards the B team's visit to have any effect on the senior England tour to the Caribbean...

BASKETBALL



Ball-watching: Soldner, of Marathon Oil, and Sunair Ostende's De Keere (foreground) prepare to do battle for a rebound (Photograph: Chris Cole).

Kingston almost come unstuck

By Nicholas Harling

The next time Team Polycell Kingston need a new sponsor, they should find a razor blade company. The team which specialises in close shaves was at it again at Crystal Palace, yesterday when they made hard work of qualifying for the semi-finals of the World Invitation Club championships...

Australia put to swift sword of Srikanth

Sydney (Agency) - Sunil Gavaskar and Krishnamachari Srikkanth scored hundreds to take India to a formidable 334 for one on the opening day of the third and final Test here yesterday.

Hughes and Dyson in command

A century partnership between Kim Hughes and John Dyson steadied the Australians away from a difficult day in Newlands yesterday, South Africa, whose lower order earlier batted with spirit, had removed Shipperd and Hayman a century.

Moderate is favourite for Yorkshire chair

Tony Cawley, the Halifax district member of Yorkshire County Cricket Club general committee, emerged yesterday as a potential candidate for the chairmanship.

Robbins adopts a cautious approach

Graham Robbins, one of England's new caps to play Wales at Twickenham on January 13, has pulled out of Coventry's home game against Neath on Saturday and will not play again before his international debut.

FOOTBALL

England begin tour with date in Cairo

Bobby Robson, the team manager, put the finishing touches to England's World Cup preparations. The programme begins with a friendly against Egypt in Cairo on January 29, the day Robson had originally arranged to play Yugoslavia.

FA remove West Ham one worry for Palace by League

The Football Association today eased Crystal Palace's fears that their cup and Saturday football would be sacrificed to favour Sunday's return of live televised football.

Nicholl is cleared

The Southampton manager, Chris Nicholl, has escaped censure from the Football Association after allegedly saying that a referee should be suspended for a disallowed goal.

Ambitious scheme for a Barnett face-lift

Barnet, who have begun 1986 with a new manager, hope to be playing on a new surface by the start of next season.

IN BRIEF

Thomson (Paisley), Matthew Smith (Milngavie) and Gerardus (Greenock) are hoping to secure a gold medal in the 100m breaststroke.

FOR THE RECORD

Table containing various sports records including Rugby Union, Ice Hockey, and Basketball.

POWERBOATING

Bob Spalding, the world formula one champion, is in hospital recovering from an operation on a blood vessel in his brain.

WEDNESDAY'S LATE RESULTS

Table of late results from various sports including Football, Basketball, and Handball.

Change for Osborne

John Osborne, the former West Bromwich Albion goalkeeper, is to become the new commercial manager of the club.

SNOW REPORTS

Table with columns for location, depth of snow, and weather conditions.

Japanese killed in French event

Six French (AFP) - Yasuo Kaneko, a Japanese restaurateur, was taken part in the Paris-Dakar road rally on his motorcycle, which was killed near his southern port city yesterday after what officials said was a head-on collision.

Boxing Featherweight clash

Nairobi (AP) - The postponed bout for the Commonwealth and African featherweight boxing title between Napany Oduoro, of Kenya, and Snake Mander, of Zimbabwe, will now take place on March 1.

Captain Kilcline

Coventry have appointed Brian Kilcline as captain in place of Wayne Turner. The club's manager, Don Mackay said the change was reached by mutual agreement.

Wednesday's late results

Table of late results from various sports including Football, Basketball, and Handball.

Seeking Sacco

Rome (AP) Rodolfo Sabbatini, the Italian matchmaker who is organizing the World Boxing Association (WBA) light-welterweight championship bout between Ubaldo Nestor Sacco, of Argentina, and the Italian challenger, Patrizio Oliva, said the world champion will be stripped of his title if he does not defend by March 15.

Advertisement for Intercity National Squash Championship 1986, featuring a 'FREE ENTRY' badge and a 'BOOK NOW!' badge.

TENNIS

Becker's ghosted threat to the gentle spirit of a different generation

Boris Becker has descended from his Christmas in the mountains to offer West Berliners a close-up view of his extraordinary brand of power tennis in the Young Masters, the 21-and-under event that has been moved here from its temporary home at Birmingham's National Exhibition Centre.

From Richard Evans, West Berlin

The New Year has begun as Becker would have wished with two victories in the round-robin format (yesterday he beat Peter Lundgren, one of five Swedes competing here, 7-5, 6-2) but 1986 is already threatening to see Becker transformed from a teenage phenomenon to a figure of controversy in West German sport.

British girls in new event

Annabel Croft, Sara Gomer and Joanne Louis will represent Britain in next week's qualifying competition for the 1986 Commonwealth Cup. The girls' event will be a 21-and-under singles and doubles.

YACHTING

Sailing close to the wind for victory

The American entry, Atlantic Privateer, sailed by Peter Kuntz and a largely South African crew, was first across the finishing line at the end of the second leg of the Whitbread Round the World race at Auckland last night.

BOAT SHOW

Strong crew for Jade's challenge off Florida

One Top Cup winner Jade, owned by Larry Woodell, is to compete in the Southern Ocean Racing Conference off Florida in early February. Although British yachts have seldom found time to compete in America's Cup years, the series is roughly equivalent to the Admiral's Cup, provides top level international sailing in non-Cup years.

SKIING

Downhill racer comes out of her coma

Innerecker (Reuter) - Christine Pitz, of Austria, who has been in a coma since falling in the slopes of Val D'Isere, France, on December 12, has recovered consciousness doctors said yesterday.

Sagacious is first at last

Hobart, Australia (AFP) - The Australian yacht, Sagacious, has been named "overall winner" in the 1985 Sydney-Hobart classic, despite statements on Wednesday by the race committee that there would be no winner.

RACING: WELLINGTON-TRAINED STAR NOW SECOND FAVOURITE FOR CHAMPION HURDLE



Mark Dwyer, seen here aboard his Gold Cup winner Forgive'n Forget, returns to partner Jimmy Fitzgerald's pair Henry's True Love and Kevisfort at Haydock today, having been sidelined since mid-December with a bruised foot

Pipe dreams could be realized by Corporal Clinger

By John Karter

Those people who persist in dismissing Martin Pipe as "just a title West Country trainer" may yet choke on their words when the Champion Hurdle is run in March. For, after yesterday's Food Brokers, Pipe's horse won the Hurdle, a feat that has made the 35-year-old Wellington trainer a name to be reckoned with.

Somerled to defy penalty

By Mandarin

Somerled, who caused acute embarrassment to firm students and the official handicapper when winning at Doncaster last month, can prove his record-breaking success there was no fluke by winning the Greenockers Handicap Chase at Haydock Park this afternoon.

Hereford off

Today's meeting at Hereford has been abandoned after the snow and ice rendered the track unusable. There will be an inspection at 4.00 pm today to see whether the meeting at Sedgfield can go ahead.

Ascot objective

Catch Phrase, the 12-length winner of the West Country Chase at Lingfield Park yesterday, will now be aimed at Ascot's Green Highlander Chase a week today.

Today's course specialists

- TRAINERS: M H Dwyer, 16 winners from 67 runners, 22.9% J Peggall, 12 from 55, 21.8% B Baines, 12 from 54, 22.2% J O'Shea, 12 from 51, 23.5% M Dwyer, 9 from 57, 15.8% J O'Shea, 8 from 57, 14.0% M Dwyer, 8 from 57, 14.0%

Haydock Park

- 12.45 BOLTON SELLING HURDLE (2916: 2m) (16 runners)
12.45-00 CROWFOOT'S COURIER (14.5) M J Peggall 5-11-10
12.45-01 MISS CROFT (14.5) M J Peggall 5-11-10
12.45-02 MISS CROFT (14.5) M J Peggall 5-11-10

Cheltenham results

- 2.15 ISLAND NOVICE CHASE (21,980: 3m) (6)
4-30-21 TULLAMARINE (W Stewart-Taylor) O Richards 9-11-16
4-30-22 TULLAMARINE (W Stewart-Taylor) O Richards 9-11-16

Haydock selections

- 12.45 Hooton Lane, 1.15 By Mandarin
Tullamarine, 2.45 Timely Star, 3.15 Rugged Road.
Michael Seely's selections: 2.45 Timely Star.

Lingfield Park

- 2.15 WARRINGTON HANDICAP HURDLE (21,438: 2m) (14)
1-00-03 MISSISSIPPIAN (D) D Armstrong A Scott 7-14-16

AYR

- 1.15 GAMESKIPPERS HANDICAP CHASE (22,080: 2m) (4)
1-00-01 KEVINPORT (G) (M R Haggis) J Fitzgerald 9-11-11

Ayr

- 2.15 KINCAIDSTON NOVICE CHASE (21,597: 2m) (8)
1-01-14 ROYAL JET O Peggall 9-12-2

AYR

- 12.45 DRONGAN CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (2211: 2m) (8 runners)
1-00-01 BURBANK HOUSE R Peggall 9-11-12

Ayr

- 2.15 STAIR HANDICAP HURDLE (21,674: 2m) (7)
1-02-01 THE SHAN HANDEL (G) (S) G Green 9-11-16

AYR

- 1.15 DALRYMPLE HURDLE (2385: 2m) (11)
1-00-01 ARIZONA DUST T Gray 5-11-4

Ayr

- 2.15 STAIR HANDICAP HURDLE (21,674: 2m) (7)
1-02-01 THE SHAN HANDEL (G) (S) G Green 9-11-16

AYR

- 1.45 KILMARNOCK HANDICAP CHASE (22,313: 3m 152y) (4)
1-02-01 GRAMLOWE R Champion 6-11-7

Ayr

- 2.15 STAIR HANDICAP HURDLE (21,674: 2m) (7)
1-02-01 THE SHAN HANDEL (G) (S) G Green 9-11-16

Motoring by Clifford Webb

Porsche helps Ibiza's promotion drive

A newcomer to Britain's roads in 1986 is the Spanish car. It is not the first Spanish-made car to be sold here in numbers.



Seat's new Ibiza (top) and the Isuzu Piazza Turbo

Until recently most people thought of Seat as the Spanish arm of the Italian giant Fiat.

Then five years ago, the partnership broke up with bitter recriminations on both sides.

While a frantic search went on for a new partner Seat had to find new models to replace the ageing Fiat designs.

The Ibiza is a three-door hatchback of almost identical outside dimensions to Ford's Fiesta.

Styling follows typical Guigiaro lines in that it manages to look well balanced, attractive and slightly aggressive without being flashy.

But the big-selling attraction and the one Seat makes great play of in its promotion is the Porsche-designed engine and five-speed gearbox.

I drove the 1.2 GL recently and was disappointed by the moderate performance and the slightly engine-borne thrash and noise when pushed hard.

As a result the Piazza is very quick off the mark. It will accelerate to 60mph from a standing start in about 8.5 secs and top 100mph in a shade over 26 secs.

There is a surprising amount of room in the rear for a 2 plus 2 coupe. With the front seats in the middle position of their front and aft travel there was a good two inches of space between my knees and the seat in front.

My overall impression is of a beautiful looking car with exciting performance that is rather spoilt by over-gilding.

My overall impression is of a beautiful looking car with exciting performance that is rather spoilt by over-gilding. Make such goodies as air conditioning, cruise control and limited slip differential optional rather than standard fittings and the Piazza could probably be sold for about £10,000.

Behind the wheel, however, there are a number of disappointing aspects. The first hits you as soon as you take your seat.

Another shortcoming is the surprisingly coarse transmission. I found it near impossible to make smooth progress up through the gears when attempting to drive at a leisurely pace.

The two-litre, four-cylinder engine is a similar mixture of good and bad. On the plus side the engineers have made an excellent job of tackling the problem of turbo lag.

The turbo "comes in" at surprisingly low revs, giving the Piazza the same flexible characteristics as a normally aspirated engine of at least three litres.

Into this heady mixture inject the following: this is the first Isuzu to be sold in Britain and, as a

latecomer to the severely restricted Japanese sector will be imported only in small numbers.

Throw in the most comprehensive and lavish package of standard equipment yet seen in its class, a top speed of 130mph, excellent power-assisted steering, reassuring roadholding and handling and you wonder what, if anything, manufacturers of existing high performance 2 plus 2 coupes can do to stop the Piazza sweeping the field.

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LEGAL LA SECRETARY
Finding a top flight legal secretary has never been easy.
Until now. Because every Tuesday, The Times have an exciting new Appointments category called Legal La Crème.



Coal productivity at new peak as consumption rises

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Productivity in the coal mines is at higher levels than any recorded in the past five years, and coal consumption is now greater than before the miners' strike...



The South African connection: clockwise from top left, Martyn Moxon, Kim Barnett, Chris Smith and Bill Atbey, who are all objected to by the Bangladesh Government.

President passes his screen test

Continued from page 1

'One gentleman didn't want to see a Russian on his TV. He said if he wanted to see a Russian he would buy a Russian TV.'

Journalists suspended by BBC

Continued from page 1

which represented them. Mr John Foster, broadcasting organizer for the NUJ, Mr Martin Young and Mr Hill had all acted from an intense desire to see justice done.

Bangladesh stops tour by English cricketers

Continued from page 1

Assuming Sri Lanka are not prevailed upon to follow Bangladesh, the England team may now extend the time they spend there and then go to either India or Pakistan if they do not go to Zimbabwe.

Contractor to take over RAF Fleet

Continued from page 1

The Marine Branch of the Royal Air Force is to be disbanded and its operations taken over by a private contractor.

Gaddafi's threats dismissed by West

Continued from page 1

acts of terrorism and subversion, its military strength was relatively puny.

Letter from Bombay Everyone joins the money-go-round

The average Bombay-wallah has been secretly enjoying the spectacle of the very rich being brought to jail by the tax inspectors.

Today's events

New exhibitions: The Vaughan Bequest of drawings and watercolours by J. Atte W. Turner, National Gallery, Scotland, The Mount, Edinburgh; Mon to Sat 10 to 5. Sun 2 to 5 (ends Jan 31).

Food prices

The food supermarkets seem to have fewer special offers than usual, unlike the department stores where cut price sales of durable goods are in full swing.

Roads

The Midlands: M5: Roadworks should cease over the holiday period until Monday January 6; still only one lane N and two lanes S to a junction between junctions 4 (Lydbile Ash) and 3 (Rushwood).

Weather forecast

A ridge of high pressure will move into W Britain. 6am to midnight: London, East Angles, central S, E England, E Midlands: Outbreaks of rain or sleet at first, sunny then clear intervals developing.

Portfolio

Investors: how to play Monday-Saturday record your daily Portfolio and then together to compare your weekly Portfolio.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,934. A crossword puzzle grid with numbered squares and some filled-in letters.

Top films

The top box-office films in London: (1) Back to the Future, (2) Santa Claus: The Movie, (3) Legend, (4) My Beautiful Laundrette, (5) Letter to Brezhnev, (6) Prizzi's Honor, (7) Fern, (8) The Black Cauldron, (9) King Solomon's Mines, (10) The Goonies.

Top video rentals

Top ten videos for 1985: 1. Police Academy, 2. Trading Places, 3. The Untouchables, 4. The Untouchables: The Legend, 5. Letter to Brezhnev, 6. Educating Rita, 7. Promising Young Men, 8. The Empire Strikes Back, 9. The Untouchables: The Legend, 10. The Untouchables: The Legend.

Cheque cards

The following banks' cheque guarantee cards without a hologram remain valid on January 1: Midland Bank, Bank of England, Bank of Scotland, Bank of Ireland, Bank of Montreal, Bank of New Zealand, Bank of North America, Bank of Nova Scotia, Bank of Queensland, Bank of South Africa, Bank of Victoria, Bank of Western Australia, Bank of Western Canada, Bank of Western Australia, Bank of Western Canada, Bank of Western Australia, Bank of Western Canada.

Snow reports

Depth (cm) Conditions Off Runs to resort Weather (5 pm) OC: Austria 10 40 Fair Powder Warm Clear, St Anton 35 100 Fair Varied Art Fair, Sölden 25 55 Good Powder Fair Snow.

The pound

Australia \$ 1.43 1.35, Canada \$ 1.15 1.15, Hong Kong \$ 1.15 1.15, Japan Yen 110 110, New Zealand \$ 1.15 1.15, Singapore \$ 1.15 1.15, South Africa Rand 1.15 1.15, Switzerland Franc 1.15 1.15, Taiwan New Taiwan Dollar 1.15 1.15, Thailand Baht 1.15 1.15, USA \$ 1.15 1.15, Yugoslavia Dinar 1.15 1.15.

Solution of Puzzle No 16,933. A grid with the solution to the crossword puzzle, including words like 'DIPLOMAT', 'MAGNANIMITY', 'LITIGATION', 'RETRIBUTION', 'SOLICITOR', 'MAGNANIMITY', 'LITIGATION', 'RETRIBUTION', 'SOLICITOR'.

Anniversaries

Births: Pietro Antonio Metastasio, poet, Rome, 1698; Robert Whitehead, inventor, Bolton, 1811; Moors, Lancashire, 1813; Clement Attlee, 1st Earl Attlee, prime minister 1945-51, London 1883; Herbert Morrison, Baron Morrison of Lambeth, British, London, 1888.

Lighting-up time

London 4:34 pm to 7:38 am, Bristol 4:44 pm to 7:48 am, Edinburgh 4:22 pm to 7:26 am, Newcastle 4:52 pm to 7:51 am.

Highest and lowest

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Chertsey, 100; Lowest night temp: Llandudno, 20; Highest wind gust: Brighton, 46; Highest rainfall: 1.2.

Weather forecast

A ridge of high pressure will move into W Britain. 6am to midnight: London, East Angles, central S, E England, E Midlands: Outbreaks of rain or sleet at first, sunny then clear intervals developing.



High tides

Table with columns for location, tide time, and tide height. Locations include London Bridge, Aberdeen, Liverpool, Southampton, etc.

Around Britain

Table showing weather conditions around Britain, including locations like Scarborough, Newcastle, London, etc., with columns for sun, rain, and wind.

Abroad

Table showing weather conditions abroad, including locations like Alicante, Madrid, London, etc., with columns for sun, rain, and wind.

Vertical advertisements on the right margin, including 'Medicine', 'Special', 'Nato', 'March', 'mission', 'wash kill's', 'officers', 'who closure', 'epidemic', 'puzzle', 'hit 600'.